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Ken Gerhardt's Comments

As I write my article, the New Year is just around the corner. So, my article will be short this month.

I want to start off by saying 2023 turned out to be a good year for golf. We had good weather for most of the year, with very few cart path only days. Many of you took advantage and played lots of golf. It was great seeing everyone.

I hope everyone enjoyed their holidays.

Annual Golf Meeting for Equity Members

Will take place on February 16th at 5:00 pm. Location will be in the Pavilion.

Due to the holidays, we did not hold a Golf Advisory Board meeting. This means no minutes with this newsletter.

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CAROLINA COLOURS GOLF CLUB

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Ken Gerhardt's Comments (continued from page 1)

Driving range

I'm pleased to share that we were able to get this project (loosened and leveled five acres in the middle of range and planted seed that will germinate this winter) done the week of Christmas. The company spent most of Christmas day here. Josh came in late afternoon on Christmas to spread the seed. This needed to be done prior to any rain that may hit us on the 26th and 27th of December.

Two things about this project. First you will start seeing grass in about 4 weeks. Second, if we end up with lots of rain the next four weeks, we won't be able to pick the range as frequently as we would like to.

Winter projects

Sprinkler heads

We will be once again weed whacking around all the heads this winter. This is a long task but needs to take place each winter. We will be replacing several heads this winter as well.

Bunkers

Josh and his team have documented the bunkers they will be working on this winter. They will start on these in January.

#1—fairway
#5—left greenside
#8—greenside
#9—fairway
#18—left fairway
#10—right fairway
#17—work on first 3 bunkers

Drains on the course

This will start in February. Holes 1, 5, 10, and 15 will be the first ones we will work on.

Course signage

Over the next few months the current signpost will be repaired and repainted. All signs on the course will be replaced to include directional signs, yardage signs, and menu board sign on hole 9.

Tournament Committee

Your Tournament Committee always strives to provide you with a great calendar of tournaments throughout the year. Some, like the Couples events are fun and some like the Club Championship and Member/Member are more serious competition. But, we try to make them all high-quality events which we constantly try to improve.

One tool which we used to improve on this year was to gather input from our participants in the form of feedback sheets handed out after the tournament. These sheets were then gathered, summarized, and reviewed by the committee at our next meeting. While most comments received were positive (thank you!), some were critical and constructive. Several times, the committee decided that we needed to make changes or improvements to the tournament. These might have been things such as tee selection, prize money, food, or many other improvements which might be reflected in that tournament the next year.

This cycle of Tournament, Feedback, Evaluation, and Improvements have resulted in constant improvement in the quality of our tournaments. We hope you agree. While this year's tournament schedule is finished, your tournament committee will continue to work throughout the winter to prepare for next year's events. We hope that you will participate in these events and continue to provide your feedback to our committee.

Thanks, your Tournament Committee

Tournament Committee 2024 Schedule of Events *

DATE	TOURNAMENT	START TIMES
February 4	Chili Bowl Scramble	12 pm Shotgun (food)
February 24	Three Club Event	12 pm Shotgun (food)
March 9	Dice Game	9 am Shotgun (food)
March 17	Couples Event	3 pm Shotgun (9 holes)
March 18 & 19	Aerifying Greens	Course Closed
April 14	Play with a Masters Pro	Tee Times
April 21	Couples Event	2 pm Shotgun
April 28	New Bern Cup at Taberna	Shotgun start
May 19 (or 20)	Heaven and Hell	9 am Shotgun (food)
June 1 & 2	Member-Member	8:30 Shotgun (food)
June 16	Couples Event	2 pm Shotgun (18 holes)
June 25	Aerifying Greens	Course Closed
July 4	Flag Tournament	8 am Tee Times
July 14	Couples Event	4 pm Shotgun (9 holes)
August 11	Couples Event	3 pm Shotgun (9 holes)
August 25	Carolina Colours Cup	8:30 am Shotgun
August 30	Nine & Dine	2 pm Shotgun
September 3 & 4	Aerifying Greens	Course Closed
September 22	Ryder Cup	8:30 am Shotgun
October 5 & 6	Member-Guest	8:30 Shotgun (food)
October 13	Couples Event	1 pm Shotgun (18 holes)
October 19 & 20	Club Championship	8 am Tee Times (food)
November 4	Equity Golf Tournament	9 am Shotgun
November 11	Pride Appreciation	9 am Shotgun
November 17	Couples Event	2 pm Shotgun (9 holes)

^{*}Does not include outside tournaments



Chili Bowl Scramble

Sunday, February 4, 2024 12 PM Shotgun - 18 Holes

\$12 per person



Chili, Beverage & Prizes

Sign up as a Single, with a Partner, or as a Foursome!

Mixed foursomes are also welcome!

Invitations will be sent out via Golf Genius 2 weeks prior to event. Registration will close 3 days prior.





TABERNA GG SUNDAY APRIL 23, 2024

The 2024 New Bern Cup Is set for Sunday April 28, 2024

Mark your calendar if you would like to participate on the Carolina Colours Golf Club team that will compete in the 2024 Cup. There will be more information distributed in January 2024 outlining the requirements for team participation.

The team that will compete includes 8 men, 4 women, 1 Pro and 2 alternates. More than likely there will need to be a qualifying event in order to make

the team. In the meantime, if you have any questions, contact Jim Ferree.



News from the Pro by Jim Ferree, PGA

As we finish up the calendar year and pause to reflect on 2023, I can't help but feel blessed. The global turmoil continues and people seem to get crazier by the minute, but the Carolina Colours Community serves as a sanctuary filled with great people with nothing but good intentions.

During my 10 months here I've witnessed an army of residents who have generously given their talents and treasures to charities and causes that reach out beyond this community. From numerous charity golf tournaments like "Pretty-In-Pink" and the "New Bern Cup" to supporting area events like the MD Bikeathon or Red Cross Blood Drives, Carolina Colours is much too active to be categorized as a "retirement community". Everyone here can be proud of their accomplishments knowing their deeds have improved the quality of life for so many.

The 2023 golfing season was another reason to be thankful. Overall, the weather was excellent with moderate temperatures, adequate but not excessive rainfall and no hurricanes. Both the MGA and LGA had busy schedules providing a variety of competitions with plenty of camaraderie. We had a total of 7 Hole-in-ones made in 2023! Their names, dates and hole numbers are listed below:

John Durham	Tuesday, 10 January	#16
Gabriel Pierre	Monday, 16 January	#16
Paul Jabs	Sunday, 12 February	#16
Barry Harris	Saturday, 18 February	#12
Spence Shelton	Wednesday, 7 June	#12
Cheryl Yadach	Saturday, 19 August	#2
Bill Jarvis	Friday, 27 October	#6

As we peek into the upcoming 2024 year, I see no reason not to be optimistic. The Ken and Ken duo has put together a great team to fulfill the Carolina Colours vision. Josh and his staff seem to always be improving course conditions and much needed work on the driving range is slated. Josh's assistant, Shelby, has brought a beautiful baby boy into the world. Chef Michael in the café is doing a wonderful job with his menu selections, which is making my weight loss New Year's resolution much more challenging. Terri, our exceptional golf instructor, will be available when anyone's golf game needs tweaking and Johnnie will be hard working as usual keeping everything running on all cylinders. Good times are here, and even better times are ahead.

Johnny Belskis, Assistant General Manager



Since there's no tournaments to recap from December, I figured it would be a good time to go over a few terms that I got a few questions about during the season. This is probably a review for many of you, but understanding how tournaments work can help put you at ease on the course.

Course Handicap vs Playing Handicap

Your course handicap is the number of strokes needed by a player to shoot par from the tees you are playing from. That is why the strokes you get can vary depending on the tees you play from. If you choose to move up a tee, obviously the course becomes shorter, but you will likely lose a stroke or two. Your playing handicap is the amount of strokes you are given for a certain round. If there is a handicap allowance for the tournament, your playing handicap will be a percentage of your course handicap. We use a handicap allowance in many of our member tournaments, meaning the amount of strokes you get will be a percentage of your course handicap, not the whole thing.





Johnny Belskis, Assistant General Manager (from page 8)



"Off Lowest Net"

This is a popular way to calculate strokes in match play events like the Member-Guest. The player with the lowest course handicap in the group is reduced to a 0, and the rest of the players in the group will get that same amount subtracted from their handicap. For example, if there is a 8 handicap and an 18 handicap, the 8 is reduced to a 0 and the 18 is reduced to a 10.



Scrambles

In almost all of our scramble formats, the amount of strokes your group receives is decided by taking 25% of the A players hcp+ 20% of B players hcp + 15% of C players handicap + 10% of D players hcp.



Limited HCP Difference

In a lot of partner formats, there is a limit of hcp differential between partners. If the limit is 12, a player with a 25 hcp would have their handicap reduced to a 20 if their partner is an 8.



The fastest way to make the naughty list.

Merry Christmas!



Terri's Tips!

Change Your Set Up Into A 'Launch' Angle To Hit The Driver Longer!

Probably the most asked question I get, "Can you teach me how to hit my driver longer?" Yes, I can, with a few changes in your set up where you may gain a few more yards off the tee!

You need to make sure you are set up in the launch position before you start your swing. IF you want to hit it longer, you need to keep the ball in the air longer. Especially during these winter months when we need all the advantage we can get to add a few more yards on the soft fairways.



Notice the shoulders in this picture. You will set up with the ball just inside your front foot. As your head is set behind the ball, just tilt your spine angle a 'little bit' to the right or left if you are a lefty. This will give you a little more weight on your back foot. (It's usually a 50/50 weight distribution with fairway/iron shots.)

Doing this will tilt your shoulder into your 'Launch' position.

From here just make your normal rotation / turn into your backswing. Keeping your head in same position as your set up, just rotate into your full finish. This should allow you to hit the driver on the 'upswing' off the tee. Notice in the photo below how the left shoulder is higher than the trail or right shoulder. Head looks like it's tilted back and

the club is on the 'Up Swing'.

I hope this helps. If you have any questions, or would like to set up your lesson, email me at Carolinaschoolofgolf@gmail.com

Par for the Course—Peter Eckle



Time Is on My Side... This Rolling Stones classic tells us... "Time is on my side, yes it is." But, no it isn't when it comes to your golf game. This month's edition focuses on time in your golf game, how to manage it, and some ways to save it.

Tee Time—Tee times are not a suggestion. Start by arriving in enough time before your tee time to take care of whatever you need to do before you are ready to tee off on time.

Time for your turn—Be ready to play when it's your turn to hit. You're allowed 40 seconds from the time it's your turn to the time you actually hit. Most players don't need that much time. If you find yourself taking too long, it may be because you didn't use the time before it was your turn to figure out what club to use, or perhaps your pre-shot routine includes too many practice swings.

Time to locate your golf ball—We're allowed 3 minutes to search for a ball from the time you arrive at the area where you think the ball may be located. Use your phone to keep on track by asking Siri or Google to time the search. It's always nice to have help from playing partners to assist, but if possible they should first focus on making their respective shots, then come and help.

Take time to park in the right place—At the green, consider parking your cart between the green and the direction of the next hole. It makes for a quicker exit once everyone finishes putting and the group behind you will appreciate it.

Time to check your position—Be aware of your position in relation to the group in front—are you staying up? If not, and it's a similar size group, then you should make an effort to speed things up or, if you are really falling behind, let the group behind you play through.

Time at the turn—Plan ahead to minimize the time you take on the turn. Order food and drink ahead to reduce the time it takes to get to 10 tee and resume play.

Allow time for maintenance—Filling divots, raking bunkers, and fixing ball marks can usually be done while waiting for your turn.

Time for a drink—When the round is over, move along in a timely manner, so the group behind can finish and you can get to the Sports Bar that much sooner.

Military Day!



Active military & all first responders may play Monday through Thursday for \$45 Friday, Saturday, & Sunday for \$50

Retired military may play on Monday and Thursday for \$45

Join us in showing respect for our nation's heroes by wearing red on Friday!

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January Hours of Operation

Pro Shop

Mon 9:30 am-5:00 pm Tues-Sun 7:30 am-5:00 pm

Driving Range (must check in with Pro Shop prior to 5:00pm)

Mon 9:30 am-5:00 pm Tues-Sun 7:30 am- 5:00 pm

Carolina Colours Ladies Golf Association (LGA)

It is hard to believe we are at the conclusion of 2023. What a great year it has been for Carolina Colours and the LGA as well. We have seen new members come aboard, which we welcome with open arms. We continue to celebrate how blessed we are to live in such a lovely place with kind and generous people and a staff that rises to every expectation anyone could hope for. We thank you all deeply for all you do for us throughout the seasons.

As the year draws to a close and we look back on the LGA 2023 season, it was a positive year. The loss of Pam McConnaughey broke our hearts, but her spirit was never more present than in the success of Pretty in Pink 2023. We like to believe it was Pam's divine intervention that provided the fantastic weather for our tournament. That along with the exceptionally hard work of many, the Pretty in Pink Foundation received over \$31,000 from the CCLGA, far exceeding what we previously had done. While this was a CCLGA event, it would not have been possible without the continued support of our MGA members as well. The funds raised through the various events, donations, businesses, and sponsors all contributed to the success. While we were concerned that our leaders Amy Trainor and Tamara Paquee were stepping down, the CCLGA once again rose to the challenge and three members have stepped up to take over the reins of this event for 2025. Thank you, Cheryl Barre, Bobbi Duval, and Carol Halbig. We are positive the event is in great hands.

As we normally do, we concluded the season with our holiday luncheon, awards distribution, and gift exchange. Many awards were passed out acknowledging everything from most rounds played, most birdies, chip ins, and ringers. Probably the most important award we give is Most Improved in each flight. This year the winners were: Tracy Carruthers (Flight 1), Linda Groff (Flight 2), and Carol Halbig (Flight 3). Congratulations ladies and to all the other winners. We also awarded the Hole in One Pot this year. Cheryl Yadach earned that with her second hole in one this year, luckily the second one was on an LGA day. Congrats Cheryl.

Finally, we wish to thank our outgoing President and Vice President, Cheryl Yadach and Robin Johnson. Your efforts were most appreciated. We welcome our new officers Linda Dawson (President) and Cindy Teasdale (Vice President). Linda and Cindy will join remaining officers Annmarie Penvose (Treasurer) and Helen Jabs (Secretary) for the 2024 season.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all. We look forward to an exciting 2024 season and, on the not so cold days this winter, perhaps we will see you out there golfing.

Carolina Colours Men's Golf Association (MGA)

We would like to wish everyone a Very Happy and Healthy Holiday Season!

Steve Vine has joined the MGA, bringing our membership up to 84. If you have not met Steve yet, please try to do so.

On December 7th, 2023, we sent 19 golfers to enjoy our neighbor golf course, Taberna Country Club. The weather was perfect, and a good time was had by all. The next road trip will be in March, and we will let you know where and when that will be as soon as possible. Please let us know if you want to go to a specific course. We try to stay within about an hour's drive.

December has been unusually cold, and we have had a few frost delays. However, overall, we have had a pretty good showing at our Wednesday and Friday games. We thank all our resilient members.

Dues for MGA membership in 2024 can be paid at the Pro Shop or to any of the Board members, Kelly Halbig (President), Bob Penvose (Vice President), Paul Platek (Treasurer), and Mark Barre (Secretary).

Hole-In-One insurance will stay in effect until March 1st, so there is still time to buy insurance if you wish. As a reminder, it is \$10 for Wednesday and \$10 for Friday. Wednesday's pot is \$1,140 and Friday \$540. Bill Jarvis had a hole in one on Friday, but you can still split the pot with Bill.

We thank Scott Carruthers, who is leaving the Board after three years, for his dedication to the MGA. Scott has done a great job during his tenure and his leadership will be missed.

Wednesday games are:

- 1/3/24—Four-man 'Texas' Scramble/Shamble. Use the best drive of the foursome, then all play your own ball until putted out; best two low nets; three drives per player; full handicap (hereinafter, all handicaps will be full unless otherwise noted)
- 01/10/24—Modified Stableford/ABCD. One low net for score; 4 pts. for net eagle, 3 pts. for net birdie, 2 pts. for net par, -1 pt. for net bogey, -2 pts. for net double bogey, -3 pts. for net triple bogey and worse
- 01/17/24—1-2-3 Best Ball. Hole 1—1 low net, Hole 2—2 low net, Hole 3—3 low net; repeat sequence holes 4 6, 7 9, 10 12, 13 15, 16 18.
- 01/24/24—Two Nines. Holes 1 thru 9—best two low nets; Holes 10 thru 18—Four-man Shamble, best two low nets
- 01/31/24—Four-man Best Ball. Each player plays their own ball, one low net.

Colours Café

Monday closed
Opewed
Tuesday 11 am--3 pm
Tuesday Dinner 5 to 7 pm
Wednesday to Sunday
11 am to 4pm

Made-to-order sandwiches and a side or salad

Call in your order from the course (look for the sign near the 9th tee box) and pick up your order when you make the turn.

You may charge your order to your Golf Club membership account.
Otherwise, cash or credit cards only.

Sports Bar

Monday closed Opened Tuesday 11 am to 3 pm Dínner 5-7 pm

Wednesday—Sunday 11:00 am-4:00 pm

252-772-7022 ext 4

Colours Café Sports Bar

at

