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# THE IMPROVED LIE

Petaluma Golf & Country Club, December 2019



## GM Report

*By Travis Berding*

Follow us on our [Instagram account](#) at [@petalumagolfandcountryclub](#) for upcoming event, event photos, and the inside scoop on PG&CC!

## Bylaw Change Update

Last month a bylaw change vote was sent to all certificate members which was proposed by the Board of Directors to recommend increasing the number of Junior Memberships from 10 to 15. The bylaw revision was approved. The Junior Membership will increase from 10 slots to 15.

## Upcoming Social Events

Come join us on Sunday December 15<sup>th</sup> for Brunch with Santa from 11am to 1pm. Brunch price is \$30 for adults, \$15 for kids and kids under 5 eat free.

Sign up in the tournament binder in the pro shop or online at

<https://www.petalumagolfandcountryclub.com/golf/event-registration?controller=event&task=options&eventId=54>

Don't forget these other fun December events

**DECEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup> – MOVIE NIGHT: ELF**

**DECEMBER 20<sup>TH</sup> – HOLIDAY MEMBER MIXER**

## Employee of the Month

Please congratulate Brittney Lapidés as the November Employee of the month who joined us in the Spring as our Admin Assistant. Great job and thank you!

## Tis the Season for Cart Path Only!

The rainy season is here and please be mindful of the cart path notice before playing. The reason for cart path only is to protect the wet fairways and the overall safety of the golfers driving the carts on hilly wet conditions. Below is a reminder of the clubs policy of the golf carts:

### GOLF CART RULES

The following rules are a practical attempt to accommodate those golfers who use carts while minimizing course damage and maximizing the quality of the golf course for all golfers. Please cooperate with these minimal rules and encourage your fellow members to do so also. They are in everyone's best interest.

- A. Observe the posted rules which are determined by the superintendent or the Head Golf Professional concerning whether carts must stay on the paths or we are using the 90 degree rule that day. Do not drive towards the green in the fairway; you must drive in the rough. Obey all cart signs that are placed in front of the greens.
- B. Stay on the cart paths as much as possible. Do not drive behind or to the side of any green.
- C. No more than two (2) persons may ride in a cart at any time. Riders must be seated and may not stand on the rear of the cart.
- D. All golf carts are issued by the Pro Shop.
- E. Only persons 18 years of age and older are allowed to drive golf carts.
- F. Persons who use a cart are responsible for its use. You must set the parking brake whenever you leave the cart. Any problems with the cart shall be reported to the Pro Shop as soon as possible.
- G. Violations of any golf cart usage rule may result in loss of cart privileges as determined by the Board.
- H. Members needing a Blue Handicap Flag shall apply for one with the Head Golf Professional. The Pro Shop will keep a list of members eligible for a Blue Flag.
- I. A rider with a Blue Flag member does not have the same privileges as the approved Blue Flag player.
- J. Guests will be required to abide by all the golf cart rules.
- K. Pull carts are not permitted to go between bunkers and greens, or on the collar or fringes of the greens.
- L. During heavy rains the Superintendent or the Head Golf Professional (or appropriate staff) may disallow the use of pull carts on the course.

The Board of Directors has limited the maximum number of private carts to ten and a waiting list has been established. Parking space availability may limit the number of carts to less than 10 at certain times.

In order to avoid any confrontations between members on the course, all noticed violations of the "Rules to Govern Play" and "Cart Rules" shall be reported to the Head Golf Professional, who has the option of correcting the violation or reporting it to the Golf Committee for action. It will be the duty of the Golf Committee to forward a letter to the member involved stating what his/her violation was and asking that the member abide by the Rules in the future. If a second warning letter is needed a copy of it shall be forwarded to the Board of Directors for appropriate action.

*\*Violations of any golf cart usage rule may result in loss of cart privileges as determined by the Board.\**

Thank you for your support.

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## Fairways and Greens Report

*By Harry Pearson*

The Greens Committee hopes everyone had a nice Thanksgiving and that you and your families will have a Merry Christmas and safe New Years.

I get feedback that my articles are too long and maybe my messages don't get out because people can't make it all the way through them. I try to be as transparent as possible and give out as much info as I can so that the members will be informed. Conversely, I'll get people asking me why we don't do this or that and I'll answer them and add that I actually covered that 2 or 3 months ago in my 'Improved Lie' article. Their answer usually is, my wife gets the 'Improved Lie', I don't read it. If this is the case with you, please skip the next two paragraphs and go directly to the last paragraph which talks about the 'Gate System'.

We met in November for the first time since August. Since then, many things took place on the golf course. The greens and tees were aerated, fairways seeded and a lot of cleanup completed. The cart paths were done which included the widening of the turn and rerouting of #7, the turn around and path on #8, the stretch back to #9 tee and the turn around and the stretch of path connecting to the #10 tee. The new Women's tee on #7 was completed and all the above look great! Hopefully next year we can complete the path on #9 and be finished with a project that has taken nearly 20yrs.

We will be doing more cleanup and trying to grow some grass in specific areas especially on the right of #2 between the green and steps and along all bunkers on the course. Also, left of the hazard on #9 so that there will be an even line of grass on the right hand side of the hole. We will be removing some trees; the tree that is hanging over the cart path below the pool area on the way to #1 tee, along with some dead trees on #2, 7 & 9. We will also be taking down a couple of trees behind the back tee on #3. The grass won't grow there because it never gets enough sunlight. This will also help by giving more sun to the middle and front tees of #3. We're not just in the business of taking down trees, we also plant new trees. Look at the area known as the triangle to the left of #3 cart path towards #4 tee. You will see 3 new redwoods that have been planted. These trees were donated by friends of Roy King and the Greens Committee through the 'Memorial Tree Program' we have. It will be known as 'The Roy King Memorial Grove'. Roy was a great guy and was an invaluable member who contributed so much to the club and never asked for anything in return. He is and will be missed greatly and maybe someone out there may be in a position to continue his benevolence to the club. When I was president, I emphasized 'member's benevolence. Roy and his gang epitomize benevolence.

The 'Gate System'. This is used at several other clubs and the purpose is to control cart traffic on and off the fairways with the purpose of minimizing wear and tear on the course. It's real simple, off the tees there will be two stakes about ten feet apart just off the cart path. This is the 'entry gate'. Carts will enter the fairway through

this gate and stay on the fairway until they get to the 'exit gate' which will be short of the green. These gates will be moved from time to time to lessen the wear out of the grass. Travis will be putting out info on this and there will be a sign on the counter to remind us when we sign out for our carts. There will also be signs in the carts. We want to try this and we need everyone's help in giving it a chance to work and see if it will make a difference. Of course, when it is cart path only the system will not be in use even if the stakes are on the course. Thanks for your help!



## **PG&CC History – Part 16**

*By Keith Brians*

### **Play Continues 12**

Sunday, February 18, 1934, was an active day at the club. Players participated in the qualifying round for the club championship and the finals of the first annual caddie tournament were played. By end of day, 16 qualifiers the club championship had been determined and Jaytee Woods had defeated Floyd Marshall to become the first caddie champion, winning 6 up with 5 to go at the 31st hole of the 36 hole match. John Olmsted led the qualifying field for the club championship with a 76 in intermittent rain on a soggy course.

The women's club hosted the first tournament of the North Bay Counties Women's Golf Association season on Wednesday, February 21. Mrs. Ream Leachman of Vallejo had the day's best gross score, shooting a 91. Low net honors went to Petaluma's Mrs. Ellis Hart.

John Olmsted and Frank Studdert met in the club championship finals on Sunday, March 11. Finishing the first 18 tied, Olmsted outplayed his long-driving younger opponent in the final 18 holes. Partially stymied by Studdert's ball on the 25th hole, Olmsted's 20-foot putt bounced off Studdert's ball and rolled into the hole for a win. Olmsted lost the 26th hole, but won the next four holes to close out Studdert 6 and 5 on the 31st hole to become the club's oldest winner at 57.

On Monday, April 9, the club's recently hired pro Fred Whetmore shot a 66, tying the previous low score course record set by John Grady. Whetmore's 66 was believed to be a better score because Grady's had been set before the club had been completely set up and the new 6th hole was put into play.

The semi-finals for the women's club championship were held on Wednesday, May 9. Defending champion, Francis Bassett, shot an 85 to advance to the finals by beating former champion, Mrs. Ellis Hart. Also advancing to the finals was Mrs. Frank Evart who beat Mrs. Clarence Miller.

The women's club championship final was held on Wednesday, May 16. Defending her title, Miss Bassett's faced Mrs. Frank Evart, a newcomer to the championship finals. The 18-hole final match between Miss Bassett and Mrs. Hart began after a breakfast for thirty-three women to honor Mrs. Clarence Miller, the popular women's club captain. Ms. Bassett was 1 up after nine and won the match on the 15th hole for her second championship.

Sunday, May 20, featured the "Goofy" tournament. Nearly 70 people, dressed in outlandish costumes, headed-out to the first tee. On the tee, the throng was split into two teams, the Odds and the Evens. Within the Odds and the Evens, 54 players were broken into 18 three person teams of 2 men and one women and assigned one of the 9 holes to be played. The remaining players and spectators subsequently did their best to create as much noise and distraction as they could. Complicating play, hazards were set up in the fairways and on the greens to interfere with play. Following all the fun, everyone adjourned to the club house for lunch.

The Women's North Bay Golf Association's 1934 annual championship semi-finals sent two Petalumans to the 36-hole finals at the Sonoma Golf Club. Mrs. Ellis Hart, several time PG&CC club champion, defeated Mrs.

Rothschild of Napa while Miss Francis Bassett, current Petaluma champion and runner-up at last year's WNBGA tournament, beat Miss Godley, also of Napa in the semi-finals. The finals were played on Wednesday, October 31 at Sonoma. Miss Bassett played well and was 5 up after first 18. After lunch, Miss Bassett continued her strong play and won 10 and 9 to become Petaluma's first WNBGA champion.

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## 18-Hole Women's Section

By Eileen Ostroff



Ruth Giacomini Cindy McCarter Virginia Silacci, Brenda Roberts, Claudia Little, Sandy King, Diane Tucker Jill Cheda, Joan Johnson Judy Dardis

Welcome to the "new" **Board of Directors**

Captain: Claudia Little

Co-Captain: Cindy McCarter

Past Captain: Brenda Roberts

Treasurer: Joan Johnson

Tournaments: Lois Skarsten & Dea Steigner

Handicaps & Rules: Diane Tucker

Lunch Reservations: Laurie Leask

Open Day & The Lie: Eileen Ostroff

A heart felt thank you goes out to Claudia Little and her crew for a great job,



From Claudia's signature cocktail, through appetizers (thank you Megan and crew) to the desserts, supplied by members of the 18-Hole Women's Section, **LADIES' JINGLE AND MINGLE**, the annual women's holiday cocktail party, was a **HUGE** success with over 80 women attending. A big thanks to **PG&CC staff** for their support

The donation of gifts for **Christmas Cheer**, once again, needed a pick-up truck to deliver. They are always greatly appreciated. The money collected for **Mentor Me** will be put to good use throughout the year. If you wish to donate to this worthy cause at any time, The 18-Hole Women's Section is always collecting. Feel free to reach out.

**WGANC Annual Meeting @ Castlewood Country Club 12/9**

PETALUMA GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

# December Events

## FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6TH – MOVIE NIGHT: ELF

Special Guest arrive at 5:30pm

Movie Begins at 6:30pm

Special Buffet Dinner at 5:30pm

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15TH – BRUNCH WITH SANTA

Brunch Begins at 11:00am

Santa Arrives at 12:00pm

Adults \$30 | Kids \$15 | Kids 7 under FREE

## FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20TH – HOLIDAY MEMBER MIXER

Live Music Featuring Jimmy Duvet & The Comforters  
(oldies, soul, rock & roll)

\$15 per person (includes hors d'oeuvres)

5:00pm – 7:30pm

RSVP (Required):

Sign Up Online or in the pro shop tournament binder

**EACH EVENT SIGN UP IS IN THE  
TOURNAMENT BINDER IN THE PRO SHOP**

PETALUMA GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

# January Events

## **FRIDAY, JANUARY 10TH – MOVIE NIGHT: ZOOTOPIA**

Movie Begins at 6:00pm

Dinner at 5:30pm

RSVP for Dinner Only – Sign Up Online or in the pro shop tournament binder.

## **SUNDAY, JANUARY 19TH – ANNUAL CRAB FEED**

Cocktails at 2:00PM | Dinner at 3:00pm

\$50 per person for Crab

\$15 per person for Pasta

Kids 7 under FREE

CRAB FEED FOOTBALL - During the Crab Feed we will have the conference playoffs games on TV. The games will be shown in the main hall.

12:00pm AFC Conference Game

3:40pm NFC Conference Game

## **FRIDAY, JANUARY 24TH – FIRST MEMBER MIXER OF THE DECADE!**

Bounty Drawing!

5:30pm – 7:30pm

Mexican Themed Dinner - \$18 per person (must RSVP to reserve a plate).

RSVP for Dinner – Sign Up Online or in the pro shop tournament binder.

**Each Event sign up is in the tournament binder in the pro shop**





**elf**



# MOVIE NIGHT

**FRIDAY NOVEMBER, 6TH  
SPECIAL GUESTS ARRIVE AT 5:30PM  
MOVIE STARTS AT 6:30PM**

*Special Menu will be available starting at 5:30pm*

**RSVP's (Required):  
Click on this flyer or sign up in the tournament binder at the pro shop**

# BRUNCH WITH SANTA

SUNDAY | DEC 15, 2019 | BRUNCH AT 11AM, SANTA ARRIVES AT 12PM

Adults - \$30 | Children - \$15 | Kids Under 5 - FREE

## BRUNCH MENU

Roast Beef

Bacon

Cheesy Potatoes

Egg Frittatas

Local Market Greens

Roasted Harvest Vegetables

Breakfast Pastries

French Toast w/ Berries & Cream

After you get your pictures with Santa,  
enjoy a reading of the holiday classic,  
"Twas the Night before Christmas"



KIDS WILL HAVE A  
SUGAR COOKIE  
DECORATION STATION!



Bring your own camera for pictures.  
**Deadline to sign up: December 11th!**

Sign up online or in the pro shop tournament binder



# HOLIDAY

## *Member Mixer*

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20TH | 5:00PM-7:30PM

*Live Music Featuring:*

**Jimmy Duvet & The Comforters**

*Plus:*

**Chance to Win \$2.4k in the Bounty Drawing!!**

**\$15** PER PERSON  
(includes hors d'oeuvres)

**RSVP (REQUIRED):**

**SIGN UP ONLINE**

or in the pro shop tournament binder

# ANNUAL Crab Feed



**JANUARY 19TH, 2020**  
**2:00PM COCKTAIL | 3:00PM DINNER**

**\$50** per person for Crab  
**\$15** per person for Pasta Only

*Children 7 and under eat Free!*

**Reservations are required as we have limited spots.**  
**Deadline for Sign-Ups is Sunday January 12th.**  
(You will be charged in full if canceled after deadline).

**RSVP - Sign Up Online or in the pro shop tournament binder**

## **CRAB FEED FOOTBALL!**

During the Crab Feed we will have the conference playoffs games on TV.  
The games will be shown in the main hall.

**12:00pm AFC Conference Game | 3:40pm NFC Conference Game**