

# THE IMPROVED LIE

Petaluma Golf & Country Club, May 2016



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## President's Report

*By Mike Candau*

Between the rain and the hard work of Billy's crew, the golf course continues to be very playable. Remember to replace divots and fix ball marks to keep the course in great shape.

At the last board meeting a couple of important items were approved. We wanted to clarify the alcohol policy of the club. There will be NO outside alcohol permitted on the golf course, pool or practice area. We will allow outside wine for events held at the club so long as the proper corkage fee is paid which is \$10 per bottle (750ml).

We have also approved (for 1 season) a clubhouse membership. The first 20 families who pay the \$500 fee may use the pool, attend social events and participate in the junior program. They WILL NOT be able to renew this membership if it exists next year and they have no golf privileges. They CANNOT bring guests. The revenue will be spent for pool repairs the House and Grounds committee recommended and these should be completed before Memorial Day. This was a contentious issue. The board believes this new membership will be a good recruiting tool for younger families. Hopefully, our current members will be good ambassadors and help bring these families into the club as certificate members.

Several years ago, we offered a trial golf membership that brought new members. With 30+ people on the waiting list to resign, we are looking for opportunities and ways to get new members and believe this is a viable option within the by-laws. As we all know, the best method for new members is for all of us to bring guests and enjoy what PGCC has to offer.

May is a big golf month with the Vartnaw (Member-Member) and the nine hole event for potential members. For newer members, the Vartnaw is a perfect opportunity for some good golf and convivial conversation. It is a 2-man team and if you do not have a partner, sign up and Chris will pair you up with another member. The junior program, headed by Mike Morgan, will also get into full swing and will continue for much of the Summer.

If you have questions or suggestions, feel free to contact Chris or the board and we look forward to a great golf season. See you up the hill.

**PG&CC  
Board of  
Directors**

**President**  
Mike Candau

**Vice President**  
Donna Beels

**Treasurer**  
Flip Lamson

**Secretary**  
Peter Barufkin

**Director**  
Mike Morgan

**Director**  
Patty Haynes

**Director**  
Steve Lambert

**Director**  
Timo Rivetti

**Director**  
Harry Pearson

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## **9-Hole Ladies Report**

*By Sandra Messer*

It's Like the 9 Hole Season Rebooted in April

With much of March too wintry for most, it felt like we were starting our season again in April because the better weather brought the players out! First, let's give a whoop whoop! to Dale O'Connor who is April's Golfer of the Month. But she wasn't the only winner this month, with 1st Flight players Angie Fredericks and Bonnie Williams tying for 1st in a Best 9 match and Dervila Settles coming in 1st among the 2nd Flight. Bingo Bango Bongo! results on our golf + lunch day was Bonnie Williams coming out on top. We played the first tourney of the season, Fran's EC but couldn't finish it in the month, so stay tuned for in our May recap.

We'd like to take this time to welcome new member Lori Cornaggia to the Petaluma Chicks!

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## **Green's Committee Report**

*By Harry Pearson*

Great things are happening at your club. The irrigation system that was funded by the assessment and CIDM is up and running as of April 15th. Minor adjustments are being made as I write this article and will continue to be made as needed and as Bill and Chris become more familiar with the programing. The thinking is to limit the amount of people using the system to Bill and Chris to keep it consistent. We will be subscribing to a service to allow Bill to run the system from home. So many things can be done with this new system, it's a wonder we could even keep the course green with the old one. Here's just a few of the things that are and can be done. It's like back in the old days, how did we live without pagers and cellphones?

First off, Bill used to irrigate the course from 8pm to 6am with the old system. With the new system, he runs the irrigation from 1am to 4am. The new system puts more and deeper water on the course in less time by maximizing the pump pressure efficiency. Hopefully this will translate into less frequent watering thus not using as much water. The Petaluma Water Dept. announced today that on July 1st, there will be a 6% increase for water. This will also give more life to the pump and save on electricity. With the old system, if adjustments needed to be made, Bill would have to go to the control boxes on the course and set the stations manually. This could take up to an hour of his time. Now, he comes to the course, takes a ride through the course, noting wet and dry spots, goes to the computer and pulls up the daily irrigation log which monitors how long each station ran the night before, pushes a couple of buttons for the adjustments and he's done. He has more time to devote to his other duties.

There is an additional option we didn't purchase. It is a weather station that puts water buckets in different locations on the course. If it rains, it measures the amount of

water that fell, than shut off the system. If the water that fell doesn't equal the amount that would be put on the course through irrigation, the system will turn back on and put on the amount of water that would be done through normal irrigation. This is probably the way to go for courses that are in areas that have unpredictable weather, like in Tahoe, but not necessary for us. Bill has got us/the computer hooked up to the California Irrigation Management System which keeps us abreast of local weather. His plan is to shut the system down if heavy or medium rain is predicted and in the case of something like Wed. April 27th, keeps the system on. With the lessening of water time, if something doesn't pan out, he can always irrigate when he comes to work in the morning and not impact play. The system has several other capabilities, including running irrigation on several setting such as dry/dry, wet /dry etc. Too complicated for me. See below for the cost of the irrigation project.

Spring maintenance went well. The greens were aerated with small tines. We played the day after aeration and we could have puttied everything out instead of the 2 putt rule. They will be verticut, sanded and sprayed every 10 days. Spraying will be done for fungus and regulating growth. Tees on #3, 4,6,7,8 &9 were aerated and sanded.

Fairways will be sprayed with fungicides and seeded with rye grass in May. This is part of the new plan to combat the fungus that permeates the poa during the warm summer months, causing a fungus. It's a very expensive process, so the plan is to hit areas that have been impacted before. The areas will be done in two week intervals for minimal disruption, one acre at a time for a total of 6 acres. Keep your fingers crossed.

Roughs have been problematic due to the wet weather which spurs growth and makes it difficult to cut. Now that the wet weather is over, the rough will be cut down and will be cut down to an inch on the left side of #5 and right side of #9 from the hazard to the green another 4 yards in from the fairway. Beyond that towards the driving range, it will be left longer so balls won't roll O.B. The area in between #1 & #9 will also be cut down. It's still very wet in there and we will do more drainage work in that area before next winter. Dandelions and daisies have been sprayed and will be sprayed again.

We've planted 3 new trees on #2, 7 & 9. Mark and Terese Thomas have donated a tree in memory of member, Frank Haynes who passed away recently after a lengthy and courageous battle with cancer. On behalf of the Greens committee and all members of PG&CC, we thank you Mark and Terese. Larry Riis will meet with them and Bill to find a suitable place to plant the tree. Please remember that if anyone wants to honor a 'loved one', we do have a Memorial Tree Donation Program. There's a plaque in the clubhouse that lists the names of those honored. You can contact Chris or myself at, [hp1852@yahoo.com](mailto:hp1852@yahoo.com) for further information.

The tree that fell over the fence by #5 green, plus two more were taken down last week along with fixing the fence and Bill will clear the debris which is not in play.

The assessment for the irrigation project which included, the computer/components/installation, satellite radio control boxes/components/installation, GPS course mapping and programs which were then downloaded into the computer and fee to Russ Mitchell, came to \$96,207.06. The purchase of 120 sprinklers/swing joints and installation of 108 sprinklers/swing joints came to \$28,565 and this was paid out of the Greens Committee's 2016 CIDM fund.

As of now, due to the above expenditure, our commitment of \$27,906.52 for equip. leases and \$3,500 for the above tree removal, we don't have much room for additional projects. We will be doing the #8/17 tee renovation in-house at a projected cost of \$2,500-3,000. This will consist of stripping the sod from the tee, leveling it and re-sodding it. This may be in progress as you read this and we will be using the front tee until we can re-open the renovated portion. The thinking was, that due to the severe slopping on the left side and the fact that everyone who is on the course uses this tee at least once per round, mostly twice, it would serve the members better to fix it.

We've done some landscaping and will re-plant the ice plant on #10 tee. The ice plant on #1 & 14 will be weeded and sprayed but we'll have to wait on re-planting these areas due to lack of funds. #14 is estimated at over \$1,000.

Again, my email address is above, so if you have any complaints, questions, suggestions, etc. please drop me a line and I'll be happy to get back to you.

Please keep carts parked fully on the paths, fix ball mark and divots and come up and enjoy your club!

# MEMBERSHIP

*By Timo Rivetti*

It has been a great start to the season! Recently, the Board approved free guest passes to all certificate members as a way to bring in prospective members. I am glad to report – so far we have had 59 guests utilizing the club with these passes. Keep up the good work and remember that our current members are our #1 source for new members.

We have several programs for your “Toolkit” that will assist you in bringing new members!

- **\$275 Recruitment Incentive.** For each new member you bring to the club you will receive a \$275 statement credit. After 6 months as members in good standing the new members will also receive a \$275 statement credit.
- **Trial Membership.** If you know someone that is not sure if they want to join – we offer a 30-Day Trial. This is the perfect opportunity to show prospective members the club with no-risk to them.
- **Club Membership** – with the newly formed club membership seek out friends and colleagues that may want to join just for the pool or just for the summer. Soon these members will realize what a fantastic club we have and will convert to full members!
- **Bring guests!** Show friends, co-workers, neighbors and colleagues the club by inviting them as guests. This is the easiest and most effective way of getting people to the club! This could be for golf, to a social event, or just to lounge at the pool.

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## JUNIOR GOLF PROGRAM

*By Christopher Gay*

As showcased in several emails – we have some great Junior Programs lined up for this year. Please go online at [www.petalumagolfandcountryclub.com](http://www.petalumagolfandcountryclub.com) to learn more about our programs:

**LAST CALL FOR THE PGA JUNIOR LEAGUE!** We currently have 10 members signed up and we will begin competitive matches in June. This is not a beginner program and juniors should have some playing ability. Please call 707.762.1057 if you have more questions or sign-up at [petalumagolfandcountryclub.com](http://petalumagolfandcountryclub.com). We have try outs and practice the next 3 Saturdays: May 14, May 21, May 28 at 3:00pm!



## **DRESS CODE**

*By Christopher Gay*

As a reminder to all members – the dress code for the golf course is a collared shirt is required for men. Please inform your guests about this policy as T-Shirts will not be permitted on the golf course.

Our official dress code is as follows:

**DRESS CODE:** All members, their families, and their guests shall at all times dress in accordance with good taste and judgment. Shoes and shirts must be worn at all times outside the pool area.

- Men must wear collared shirts, or designer golf wear when playing golf.
- Shorts, dresses and skirts must have an out seam measurement of at least 15 inches.

### **Clothing that is specifically prohibited on the course or in the clubhouse:**

- Jeans which are soiled or torn
- Tee Shirts with lettering in poor taste.
- Bathing suits and tank tops are prohibited on the course and in the clubhouse unless you are using the pool area and coming to the clubhouse for food or drinks, etc.
- Cutoffs.

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## **MEMBER RECRUITMENT EVENTS**

*By Christopher Gay*

We have organized two member recruitment events to aid in attracting members to the club. Please make note of these events as they will not only impact club availability but you can also use these events to bring prospective members to the club.

Thursday, May 19, 2016: Spring Invitational. 9-Hole Golf with dinner. \$20 entry fee. Bring a friend or three and showcase your club. **EVENT IS ALMOST SOLD OUT.**

Friday, June 10<sup>th</sup>: Open House Block Party. 4:30pm to 7:30pm. Enjoy a complimentary BBQ & Music! There will be a cash bar with specialty drinks. Lounge by our pool or sunset bar! Hula Show starts at 6:00pm includes Hula Lesson. Putting contest for the Family. First 5 applicants who join that day will have a chance to win \$1000,000 Cash!.

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## **MAY FRIDAY NIGHT MIXER May 27<sup>th</sup> 5:30om – 7:30pm!**

*By Christopher Gay*

Our Friday Night Mixers are Hot! Hot! Hot! Come out to the club for some live music, special appetizers and a chance to win \$500 in golf shop credit (must be present to win). Someone in attendance will win a \$50 statement credit. Last Month's non-winner for the \$500 was Tim Lindelli ☹. Last Month's \$50 Winner was Heather Slate! May Theme: TBD

## MEN'S TWILIGHT DINNERS

*By Christopher Gay*

Our dinner season is underway and each week the chefs are trying to outdo each other! Dinners cost \$17.00 and starts at 6:00pm. The Golf Game is \$3.00 and format varies from week to week.

This is a great way to meet members and Tuesday Night is a tradition at our club. Please mark it on your calendar and attend as many as you can!

We still need chefs and we are accepting sign-ups for dinner – get a group of friends together and cook a meal for your fellow members. Please call 707.762.7041 to sign-up now!



Clinton Walker working on his secret sauce –  
Mama Mia!

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## WOMEN GOLF CLINICS – Clinic and Cocktails!

*By Christopher Gay*

### *Beginner Clinic and Cocktails*

Join us for this fun and exciting beginner's golf program – for women only! Learn about the fundamentals, the swing, putting and chipping. On-course portion will include rules and etiquette. Each session is 5 Fridays from 5:30pm to 7:00pm. After each class – join us for a special cocktail at the club! Fee \$150.00 per session

#### **Fridays:**

Session #2: June 10, June 17, June 24, July 1, July 8

Session #3: July 29, Aug 5, Aug 12, Aug 19, Aug 26

### *Clinic and Cocktails 2.0*

Come join in the fun! If you have already taken our beginner class or are ready for a little more advanced instruction - this class is for you. Clinics will include more video instruction, course management and swing techniques. This 90 minute clinic begins at 5:30pm and lasts for 5 weeks. After each clinic, each participant will receive a special cocktail. \$150 per session.

**Thursdays:** Session #1 May 12, May 19, May 26, June 2, June 9

# May

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Banquet Event 2:00pm-5:00pm	2 SIRS 7:00am-1:30pm	3 9-Hole Ladies 9:00am	4 18-Hole Ladies 8:15am	5	6	7 Wedding 4:00pm
8	9	10 9-Hole Ladies 9:00am <i>Men's Twilight Dinner</i>	11 18-Hole Ladies 8:15am	12	13 VARTNAW – Pre-Tournament Shootout and Party	14 VARTNAW Men's Member - Member
15	16 Birdies for Books Golf Tournament 12:00pm – 7:00pm	17 9-Hole Ladies 9:00am <i>Men's Twilight Dinner</i>	18 18-Hole Ladies 8:15am <i>Board Meeting 6pm</i>	19 Spring Invitational – Prospective Members 5:15pm Start	20	21 Men's Club 4-Man Scramble 8:30am Shotgun Wedding 4:00pm
22	23	24 9-Hole Ladies 9:00am <i>Men's Twilight Dinner</i>	25 18-Hole Ladies 8:15am	26 Home & Home with Sea Ranch 12:00pm	27 Friday Night Mixer 5:30pm – 7:30pm	28 Party in Hall 6:00pm to 10:00pm
29	30 <small>Memorial Day</small> <b>Couples Tournament</b> Men's Club NCGA ZONE Qualifier Begins now through June 12th	31 9-Hole Ladies 9:00am <i>Men's Twilight Dinner</i> <b>POOL PARTY 10-2</b>				

# JUNE

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 18-Hole Ladies 8:15am	2 <i>POOL PARTY 12-3</i>	3 <i>POOL PARTY 11:30-1:30</i>	4 <i>POOL PARTY 10-2</i>
5	6	7 9-Hole Ladies 9:00am <i>Men's Twilight Dinner</i>	8 EGG BASKET 8:15am	9	10 Open House – Block Party 4:30-7:30	11 Men's Club Tournament Scotty Cameron Putter Demo Day 12-3 Wedding 4:00pm
12 Scotty Cameron Putter Demo Day 12-3	13	14 9-Hole Ladies 9:00am <i>Men's Twilight Dinner</i>	15 18-Hole Ladies 8:15am <i>Board Meeting 6pm</i>	16	17	18 Men's Club Tournament Wedding 2:00pm
19	20 SIRS 7:00am-1:30pm	21 9-Hole Ladies 9:00am <i>Men's Twilight Dinner</i>	22 18-Hole Ladies 8:15am	23	24 Friday Night Mixer 5:30pm – 7:30pm	25 Party in Hall 6:00pm to 10:00pm
26	27 SIRS 7:00am-1:30pm Men's Club NCGA Senior Two Ball Qualifier Begins now through July 10th	28 9-Hole Ladies 9:00am <i>Men's Twilight Dinner</i>	29 18-Hole Ladies 8:15am	30		