

You heard it through The Ivy Vine



FROM THE PRO SHOP

By: Eddie Moran

STARTING TIMES

Fortunately we are still dodging the snow, but winter is here. In mid to late January we have had several days when the temperatures stayed in the 30's all day, and we have had some very heavy frosts and freezes. However, we have still been open for play, and should have some better weather going into February.

For February we will remain on our winter schedule, with the tee times beginning at 9:00 weekdays and 8:30 weekends when the weather permits. The senior men's packs will stay at 10:00 Wednesday and Friday, the men's pack at 10:00 Saturday and the women's at 10:30. The mixed pack will be at 12:45 on Sundays. The ladies will be playing at 11:00 on Tuesdays and Thursdays. We will continue to have the senior men playing the green tees at 10:30 Mondays and Thursdays.

If you want to play in any of these groups, please call or be here 30 minutes before the scheduled tee time so we can get the teams together and get teed off on time.

GREAT SHOTS

We actually had two hole in ones in the past month. Roger Dyer aced the 145 yard 4th hole, and Teresa Hudson got hers on the 148 yard 9th. And one of the young golfers also got on the board. Zeke Shen, who has been playing less than two years, shot a personal best 71.

Congratulations to all of you on these accomplishments.

UPCOMING EVENTS

We don't have any official events scheduled in February, other than the weekly events mentioned above, weather permitting. However, make sure to mark your calendar for Saturday, March 17, when we will hold our annual Member Appreciation Tournament. This one all you pay is cart fee. The food is provided by Bill and Jennie, the Club owners, and prizes are provided by me in the golf shop. This is our way of thanking you for your patronage and support throughout the year.

The ladies golf trip March 4 – 8 has the 24 people I made reservations for, but if you would still like to go I should be able to get additional rooms and tee times. We have more information on this in the golf shop.

HANDICAPS NEEDED

I just wanted to remind everyone on the importance of establishing and keeping an accurate USGA handicap.

First I will give a brief explanation of how the handicap is established. The system looks at the differential of what you actually shot, using "Equitable Stroke Control", and the course rating from the tees you played. It computes the average differential from the best 10 of the last 20 rounds played, whether you play once a month or every day. This determines your *handicap index*. The *course handicap* is then computed based on the *slope* of the course and tees you are playing. If you have any questions on how this is figured, Ryan or I should be able to answer them reasonably well, so stop by and ask.

Why should you pay the \$25 a year to establish and keep the USGA handicap?? For starters, USGA handicap allows you to go anywhere in the world and play in an event. Many tournaments here in the states require a valid handicap, and many countries overseas require a USGA handicap to even get a tee time.

Closer to home, we at Ivy will begin requiring a valid and updated handicap to win prizes in the net division of future tournaments. For 2012 a valid handicap will not be an absolute requirement. However, if you do not have a handicap, or have one but are not posting scores, you will be assigned a handicap which will likely be on the low side. This will not impact the gross prizes, but it is unfair to give someone an advantage because they are NOT keeping an updated handicap.

Beginning in 2013, all Ivy members who want to participate in the net division of any event must have a valid handicap – and be posting all of their scores when they play, either here or away. This will make the net division in all our outings fair. The only exceptions to this will be novice golfers whose handicaps would clearly be above the maximum, 36 for men and 40 for women, and new members who have not yet had time to establish a handicap at Ivy Hill. Again, **without the handicap you can still play for the gross division prizes, but not the net.**

We hope everyone will help us out in this. Our goal is certainly NOT to restrict anyone from playing, or to make money for Ivy Hill, as the \$25 fee is a pass through amount sent to the VSGA. This is to make the events fair for EVERYONE involved, and not let anyone have an unfair advantage.

Thanks for your help and cooperation in this. If you have any questions, please stop by and see me and I will try to explain.

PGA SHOW IN LATE JANUARY

Just as information, Ryan and I will be at the PGA show in Orlando, Florida, the last week in January. We hope to see some interesting equipment and apparel to bring back to the shop. And just to dispel any rumors that Ryan may try to start, I am staying down in Florida for a week or so after the show on vacation, to golf and do some fishing. ***This is NOT rehab from the intraclub Ryder Cup matches in October!!!!!!!!!!*** (As was erroneously reported about my time off in November.)

I will be back in early February, and see you all then.

Eddie

GOLF COMMITTEE NOTES

By: John Heslep

2012 TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

DATE	EVENT	FORMAT
March 17	MEMBER APPRECIATION	Two Person Captain's Choice
April 21	SPRING FLING	Two Person Mixed Format
May 19 - 20	MEMBER/MEMBER	Two Person Best Ball, Flighted After first Day
June 30 – July 1	MEMBER/GUEST	Two Person Best Ball, Flighted After first Day
July 4	RED, WHITE, & BLUE	TO BE ANNOUNCED
August 25 - 26	CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP	Individual Gross/Net
September 29 – 30	THE IVY CUP	TO BE ANNOUNCED
October 7	IVY INTRA-CLUB RYDER CUP	Two Person Mixed Format
*November 17	THANKSGIVING BLITZ	Two Person Captain's Choice
*November 18	THANKSGIVING BLITZ	Two Person Captain's Choice