

Goose River Spring Newsletter

April 2011

Hello Everyone,

Spring is in the air! With the warmer temperatures on the way and the remaining snow on the melt, we will all hopefully be out there playing the game we all love. Our potential opening date for the club and practice range will be Sunday May 1st. However if weather cooperates we may have an earlier opening date. Please stay tuned to the website for any further updates.

Course News

I have made a few trips around the course and I am pleased to say that aside from a little damage from our friends the "Canadian Geese" the course has come through this brutal winter with out much harm and if mother nature is kind to us this spring by slowing down the rain storm intervals green grass shall be coming soon.

There will be a change in teeing areas on hole # 8. We starting building a new tee last fall, but due to some late flooding we were forced to stop, but we will resume this spring and hopefully play from it by mid June. The new tee will be played from about 120 yards out and will be located on the right side of the hole just tucked into the tall swale grass. This new tee area is being made with hopes of enhancing our par threes and giving players a better chance at making par. The old 8th tee will still be used but will only be played from as the blue tees for the men's 17th hole, and will alternate back and forth between the old 8th tee and current 17th tee.

A new drainage ditch was put in place on hole #2. The new ditch runs along the left perimeter of the hole in the tall grass. This new drainage ditch takes the water that used to flow down the right side of hole #2 and diverts it over to the river on #1. This ditch is in place to hopefully dry up the right side of #2 & #3 so we will be able to mow easier and sooner after torrential rains. We were able to monitor the ditch after a few storms last fall and found it to work very well. The drainage ditch on the right side of #2 and in front of the green will still be played as hazards even if they are dry.

The Shop & Snack Bar

I am happy to report that Alex Plummer and John Shaw will be returning as part of the shop staff this season. Please be sure to see me or any of my staff for any of your spring golfing needs, grips, balls, clubs etc. I can always be contacted by email 1020hope@tidewater.net or by cell phone @ 975-5745 for any needs or concerns.

Due to many changes in my duties and responsibilities during last season and going forward, I am proud to say that Chris Christie will be available, by appointment only, for lessons during the 2011 season. Chris's huge passion for teaching the game brought us to a conversation during the off season and we both agreed that it would be beneficial to the club to bring him on as an instructor. Alex Plummer will also be starting a Goose River Junior Mini Camp this July, and will be starting to give junior lessons as well. Details about the mini camp will be available in the shop. I will also still be available for lessons as well, two days a week by appointment only.

Our snack bar will have Alison Dyer returning to help prepare food, however we are still looking for another part time person to help out behind the snack bar, so please refer any person(s) to me with any interest. The snack bar will not be open and fully operational until the end of May, but there will be snacks and beverages available when the course opens for play.

Please come back and revisit the website for last years Club Champion's Recap and the 2011 event schedule as they are still being created for the site. This years membership application is available on the site as well. I do welcome any and all feedback on the site and would appreciate any comments on what you may like to see on the site as well to better serve your needs.

James A. Blanchette