



September - 2016

Superintendent's News

As I sit and write this article on August 26th, we are wrapping up one of the hottest months in history and the region remains to be in a moderate drought. There have been 15 days thus far in August that temperatures exceeded 85 degrees, 7 of which were over 90 degrees. Night time temperatures offer no relief as well. Since the beginning of June, we are 5.29" behind the average rain fall in the greater New Haven area. It is merely a snapshot of the challenging growing conditions we have been faced with. Surface air movement has been virtually non-existent and greens that receive no prevailing wind (#3 and #8) have been very delicate to manage. The golf course has held up extremely well and continues to play wonderfully.

With the month of September right around the corner, most area clubs will begin their aeration procedures within the next couple of weeks. This is the optimal time for recovery and fall root development as plants begin to harden off for winter. Removal and dilution of organic matter is essential to sustain healthy turf throughout stressful months. We have been venting greens (very small solid tines) to create gas exchange to very warm soil systems. We will be aerating all Fairways on Tuesday September, 20, Tee surfaces on Monday September 26 and Greens on Halloween.

We were fortunate to reintroduce the USGA Turfgrass Advisory Service to Great River on August 1st. The Agronomist prepared a very detailed report which highlights issues and concerns throughout the property. One of the key discussions revolved around cultivation practices (aeration). Timing and frequency being the essential element to success. Another important component discussed was creating the best possible growing environments for putting green surfaces. The key ingredients for turfgrass success are sunlight (photosynthesis), air movement (oxygen) and water. The tree removal along the river on #15 in 2015 has proven to be a direct example of improving a micro-climate to yield better playing surfaces.

Thank you all for the continued support. I look forward to seeing you on the golf course, some cooler weather, and football season!

Great River Golf Club Member Committees

Great River Golf Club has formed 3 new member committees. Thank you to all the members that have agreed to participate on the committees.

Greens Committee:

Seve Esposito - Chair
Ken Campbell
Brian Balistee
John Longo
Alicia Cavallaro
Matt D'Amico

House Committee

Andree Acampora - Chair
John Shanley
Hillar Kivi
Mark Pappas
Rich Kowal
Paul Timpanelli

Tournament & Proshop Committee

Paul Vaitkus - Chair
Bob Brzoska
Mark Gilhuly
Stewart Gross
Drew Acquarulo

The first Committee Meetings will be scheduled this month:

- Sean Flynn will be setting up the Greens Committee meeting.
- Karin Attolino will be setting up the House Committee meeting.
- Tom Rosati will be setting up the Tournament & Proshop Committee Meeting.

Thanks again to all for volunteering!

Golf Course and Driving Range Hours

August 29-September 4 Course is open from 7:00-7:15

Range Hours:

Monday (8/29)	11:30-6:15
Tuesday (8/30)	6:30-6:15
Wednesday (8/31)	6:30-6:00
Thursday (9/1)	9:00-6:15
Friday (9/2)	6:00-6:15
Saturday (9/3)	6:00-6:15
Sunday (9/4)	6:00-6:00

September 5-September 18 Course is open from 7:24-7:00

Range Hours:

Monday (9/5)	6:00-6:00
Tuesday (9/6)	11:30-6:00
Wednesday (9/7)	6:45-5:45
Thursday (9/8)	9:00-6:00
Friday (9/9)	12:00-6:00
Saturday (9/10)	6:15-6:00
Sunday (9/11)	6:15-5:45
Monday (9/12)	11:30-6:00
Tuesday (9/13)	6:45-6:00
Wednesday (9/14)	6:45-5:45
Thursday (9/15)	9:00-6:00
Friday (9/16)	6:15-6:00
Saturday (9/17)	6:15-6:00
Sunday (9/18)	6:15-5:30

September 19-September 25 Course is open from 7:30-6:45

Range Hours:

Monday (9/19)	Closed Outing
Tuesday (9/20)	Closed Tee Box Aeration

Wednesday (9/21)	6:45-5:30
Thursday (9/22)	9:00-5:45
Friday (9/23)	6:30-5:45
Saturday (9/24)	6:30-5:45
Sunday (9/25)	6:30-5:30

September 26-October 2 Course is open from 7:30-6:30

Range Hours:

Monday (9/26)	11:30-5:30
Tuesday (9/27)	7:00-5:30
Wednesday (9/28)	7:00-5:15
Thursday (9/29)	9:00-5:30
Friday (9/30)	6:45-5:30
Saturday (10/1)	6:45-5:30
Sunday (10/2)	6:45-5:15

**Great River Online Member Reservations Update:
Member Web booking page is fixed!!!**

Please book your tee times on line. If you experience any problems, please call or email Karin at 203-876-8051 X 111 or karina@rgolfclub.com

September Course & Monty's Closures

Sep 8	Monty's Closing at 3:00 pm for Private Event - Grill Room Available
Sep 9	Course Closed for Private Outing
Sep 19	Course Closed for Private Outing
Sep 20	Course Closed for Fairway Aeration
Sep 25	Monty's Closing at 3:00 pm for Private Event - Grill Room Available

Wine Club

September 7th Wine Club

Wines of Spain

Sweet Potato Torta
Dandelion Salad, Blistered Heirloom Tomatoes
Sherry Herb Vinaigrette
Martin Codax, Rias Baixas Albarino (2014)

Seafood Paella
Saffron Rice, Shrimp, Mussels, Calamari
Verde Mojo, Saffron Broth
Arinzano, Pago de Arinzano Hacienda Blanco (2014)

Manchego Chicken Roulade
Serrano Ham, Piquillo Pepper Polenta, Romesco Sauce

Campo Viejo, Rioja Reserve (2010)

Traditional Flan

Fig Compote, Crema

Miura, Clos Pissarra Montsant Aristan (2010)

October 5th Wine Club

October Festival of Beer

Tournament Club Results

13 year old Ben James wins the 2016 Club Championship!

The Championship Flight was full of excitement and drama. In his first appearance in the Club Championship, young 13 year old Ben James shot even par in the final match to beat Martin Goethche.

The 1st Flight was won grind-it-out style where the older Farruggio knocked off the younger Farruggio in a family affair during the semi-finals and Joe Farrugio carried the momentum getting off to a hot start taking a 3 up lead through 12 holes and never looked back.

The 2nd Flight was a back and forth battle between David Abraham and Paul Vimini. Abraham turned with a mistake free 40 on the front and held off a charging Vimini who hit his shot inside 6 ft making birdie and cut the lead to 1. After halving 16 and 17, Abraham was in the greenside bunker in 2 and closed out the match by hitting a superb bunker shot inside 8 feet.

Championship Flight

Champion: Ben James

Runner Up: Martin Goethche

1st Flight

Champion: Joe Farrugio

Runner Up: Mike Weisman

2nd Flight

Champion: David Abraham

Runner Up: Paul Vimini

The 2016 Great River Open

Congratulations to our winner, Don Richards!

Don Richards beat two fine players in his quest to winning the 2016 Great River Open. After making 5 birdies in the semi-final match, he defeated defending champ Paul Vaitkus and in the finals he continued his hot play by making 3 birdies and disposing another former champ Stew Gross after 17 holes.

Congratulations Don and all our other finalists on their fine play this year.

The First Annual Great River Skins Game

On behalf of Great River Golf Club, thank you for participating in our First Annual Great River Skins Game. It sure felt like summer out there with a heat index of 106 degrees. Even on the hottest day of the year, there was great competition, excitement and laughter shared. After 2,664 total scores entered, there were 6 skins won. These lowest scores held up among all other players paying out a total of \$436 per skin.

We would like to congratulate the following gross and net skin winners: Pam Doolittle, Glenn Neves, Martin Goethche, Peggy McGowan, Dennis Rothe, and Ed Tayag. I would also like to recognize Kevin Stratford who won the Closest to the Pin Shootout on hole # 10 hitting it inside the golf ball of 11 other participants.

2016 Tom Follo Memorial Member/ Member Tournament

You don't want to miss our last major of the year. Sign up now for the 2016 Tom Follo Memorial Member/Member Tournament. The format is an improvement tournament, which is a better ball event in which you only count the scores on the second day that your team improved upon. This is a 2 day event held on Saturday, September 24th and Sunday, September 25th, a 9 a.m. shotgun start. Ryder Cup points will be awarded!

See Tommy for details!

Tom@GRGolfClub.com or 203.876.8051 ext 117

Congratulations:

Lori Seamon gave birth to a baby girl, Kaitlyn Ann on Wednesday, August 10th.
Congratulations to Lori and Buddy!!

Ellen Nighbor wins:

US Challenge Cup August 18-19
Wampanoag Classic

Ellen Finished Third in the CSGA Woman's Amateur
Congratulations Ellen!!

GreatRiverGolfClub.com

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