



JULY 2018

# THE RIVER

# Greens & Grounds

What an exciting month June was for the Greens and Grounds Department. We were fortunate enough to have one of the most esteemed and well-known professionals in the turfgrass industry spend some time with us. Richard Bator, a leading Turfgrass Consultant, and former superintendent of courses such as Merion, Pine Valley and Oak Hill Country Club (where he hosted the US Open) was on site June 10th to review our cultural programs and assess the conditions of our greens. It was a fantastic visit and we were able to modify our cultural program slightly. This modification will allow us to displace our existing thatch layer in a more efficient time and dramatically improve playing conditions. It's always nice to know that someone with his background is just a phone call away.

Course conditions for the month of June have improved tremendously. We are working extremely hard to provide the most balanced course on a daily basis without compromising turf conditions. All greens were overseeded the week of June 4th and our "catch" has been great. We were able to start a light sand dusting on June 25th and will continue this practice every two weeks until our fall greens aeration on September 25th (rain date if necessary is TBD). This bi-weekly dusting is important to help maintain smooth greens, continue breaking down thatch, and diluting the upper 1 ¼" of our USGA mix. I will keep everyone posted via Clubster and daily operation sheets (also posted on website) of any upcoming cultural practice that might be disturbing to play.

During the month of June, the G&G Department has been busy with many little projects to help enhance the beauty and functionality of our course. The left green side bunker on #7 has been reshaped, given a Better Billy bunker liner, and some new sand (that will provide a much firmer bunker when settled). Like I stated earlier, all greens were overseeded with the top four performing



**#10 Green on June 25th**

creeping bentgrass varieties from the latest National Turfgrass Evaluation Program trial. The white tee on #15 has been stripped, leveled, and resodded. A row of trees has been removed on #3 along the creek and will provide some much-needed air movement to that green. A small garden containing four yucca plants has been installed on the left side of #9 cart path in an area that gets very little water and should provide a nice backdrop. The last of our June projects was to install Belgium block along the cart path going from the #11 green to the #12 tee.

I still get asked by the membership how to handle a freshly made divot. The best way to go about this is to replace any divot made that has soil attached to it. Place it back in the hole and give it a good press with your foot. This will provide adequate soil contact and keep the edges from drying out. Any other type of divot should be filled with the provided sand and seed mixture then leveled off with your foot. You can also help the course by repairing your ball mark and two others, following all cart rules, ropes, and signs. As the weather starts heating up, it will be important that everyone follows the 90° rule to reduce turf stress and stay out of native areas with carts.

# Member Spotlight

## Congratulations to Jess Nuzzaci

Jess made All-State Honors for Fairfield Warde High School

Jess shot a 77 FCIAC championship and was the runner-up May 31st

She finished fourth in the state of CT

Job well done Jess, you made us all proud at Great River golf Club!



## Ben James Qualifies for the USGA Junior Amateur

Ben James continues his fine play this season firing a 69 at Stonewall Orchard Golf Club in Grayslake, IL to qualify for the 71st US Junior Amateur at renowned Baltusrol Golf Club, Springfield, NJ July 16-21, 2018.

Good Luck Ben!

## Hole in One Club

Tim Nick had a hole in one on Thu, June 28th

Hole #15

161 yards with an 8 iron

He was playing with John Chiota and Scott Warkenten

Congratulations Tim!

## July Outings

Monday, July 9th Samunder NE outing 12:00 S/G, Tee times available after 12:24-2:24 or after 4:24pm

Monday, July 16th Milford Chamber of Commerce, 11:00 S/G Tee times available after 4:00pm

Monday, July 23rd CSMS Outing, 12:30 S/G Tee times available after 5:30

Monday, July 30th SHU Roll Pios Outing, 11:00 S/G Tee times available after 4:00pm

# Pro Shop Corner

Dear Members,

The second Major of 2018 is in the books, Father's Day is behind us and the school year has come to an end which means many things: summer is finally here, the golf season is underway and those who have graduated are moving on to bigger and better things.

We all know someone (or many people) reaching an academic milestone. Now that school is no longer in session, he or she will have plenty of time for golf and will need all the right equipment and gear. Whether that special person is graduating from college, high school, middle school or kindergarten, give them a gift they will love and will use all the time.

Any graduate would like nothing more than to trade in their cap and gown for a new head to toe golf outfit. We have all the latest shirts, shorts, and shoes from Footjoy, Under Armour, Johnnie-o, Adidas, Vineyard Vines – all the best shoes and apparel in golf.

FJ is the #1 Shoe on Tour and is trusted by more tour players than all other brands combined. If it is good enough for the best players in the world, it is good enough for your graduate. Even though they may not be able to play like Rafa Cabrera-Bello, Webb Simpson, or Jimmy Walker, they can look like them.



Stop by the shop and check out all the new offerings. We will help you outfit your graduate, so they can look their best on or off the course.

Sincerely,

The Golf Shop Staff

---

# Monty's River Grille

Dear Members,

In the month of June, we implemented a new Wine list along with a new Cocktail list reflecting the summer season.

In the month of July, we will have our 6th Wine Club Dinner on Wednesday, July 11th at 6:30pm. Our wines will be from the Joel Gott luxury portfolio and the appellations will be from regions on the Pacific Coast.

On Friday, July 20th, we will feature our first Pig Roast BBQ with all the fixings along with live entertainment. More details to follow.

On Saturday, August 4th, we will have our third Prime Rib Night located in Monty's Restaurant. We will feature a 14 oz. Prime Rib with seasonal vegetables and baked potato.

We look forward to serving you, along with your family and friends!

Thank you,

Dan Piccoello

Food & Beverage Director



## Social Media Sticking around for the summer?

**Follow us on Facebook and Instagram to stay up to date with what is going on at Great River Golf Club!**

Since the revamp of our Facebook page in January, we have grown our Great River Golf Club page by 170 followers! We love being tagged in photos from members about their time spent at here at the club. Feel free to share your photo experiences at the club with the staff via email, direct message, or stopping in the pro shop so they can be featured on the Great River Golf Club pages! Follow along this month as we continue to post the highlights of your time here at Great River Golf Club. Keep an eye out for special nights and promotions that are going on throughout July and the rest of these gorgeous summer months! See you out on the green!

# Event Hosting

We welcomed June with the celebration of our friend Ellie's Bat Mitzvah. Our ballroom was totally transformed, as it dazzled in pink and purple. Mazel Tov to one of our own, the Forma family, thank you for giving us the opportunity to host your daughter's special day!

Brides and babies-to-be were also welcomed with elegant Sunday brunches. We are especially excited for the Venditti family on their upcoming bundle of joy. If you don't see Steve on the course, I guess we will know the baby has arrived! In addition, we'd like to send our best wishes to the following couples who tied the knot in June: Brittany & Fletcher, Anna Jean & Andrew (SHU Alumni); Erin & Eric, and Debbie & Jon!

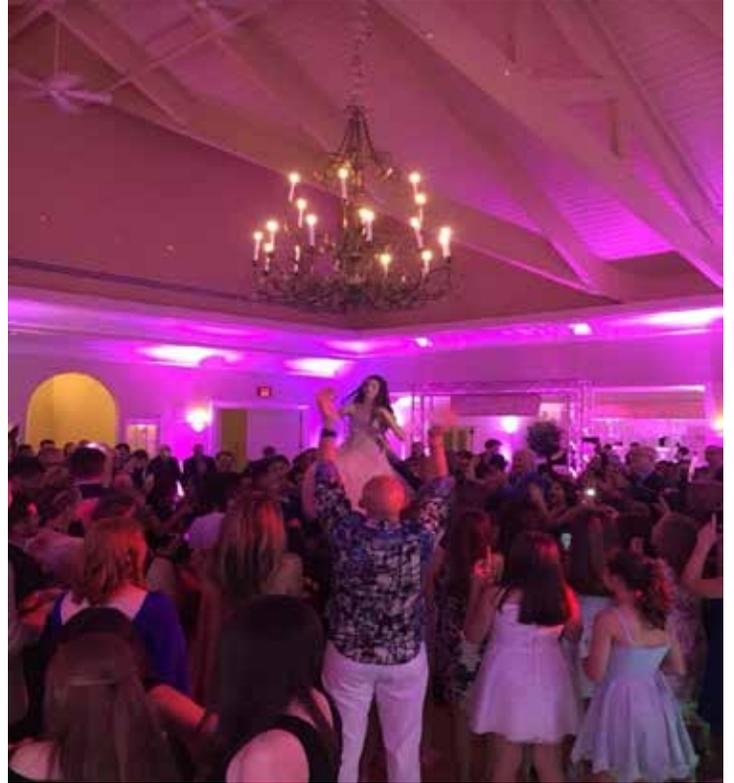
As we look ahead to the Summer months, we are excited to host more special celebrations, including a Sweet 16, anniversary and retirement celebrations, as well as more baby & bridal showers, weddings and corporate meetings. Please keep in mind, it's not too early to book your company's holiday party.

If you know of anyone looking for the perfect venue for their special event, please have them give me a call at (203) 876-8051 ext. 132.

Best Regards,

Gail Hunt

Social & Corporate Event Sales Manager



# Member Tournaments

## Healy/Ruggles Capture One Day Member/Guest

Matt Healy and his guest John Ruggles fired a two under par 70 to win the low gross in Friday's Member Guest. 2nd Gross went to Ken Campbell and Rich Rapheal with a fine 71. Winning the net division was Noel Forma and Steve Pressman with a strong 58 and 2nd net went to John Maloney and Lamarre Roland with 59. Nice going fellows!

## Two Day Member/Guest

**Entry Fee:** \$450

**Friday July 13th, 5:00:** Par Three Tournament and Cocktail Party afterwards

**Saturday July 14th:** Three nine-hole matches, 9:00 S/G

**Sunday July 15th:** Two nine-hole matches, 9:00 S/G

**Format:** Better Ball of Partners. There will be five 9 hole matches over two days. Teams will be flighted according to HDC. All flights are played at 80% handicap. The difference between partners handicap cannot be more than 9.

**Prizes:** 1st and 2nd in each flight

**Sign-Up Deadline:** July 7th

**Food and Beverage:** Breakfast and Lunch at the Member's Grill both days

## The Summer Skins Game

**Date:** Saturday, August 4th, 9:00am Shotgun

**Entry Fee:** \$20 per member and \$70 for guest

**Fee for Skins pool:** \$40 cash from each player

**Format:** Individual Stroke Play, recording your Net and Gross scores

A skin is won by a player who posts the lowest score on a hole

Net skin will be any net score that holds up among only Net Scores

Gross Skin will be any gross score that holds up among only Gross scores

The maximum HDC for this event is 18, Members can invite 1 guest

**Sign-Up Deadline:** August 1st

**Food and Beverage:** Breakfast and Lunch at the Member's Grill

## Smith/Marshall claim Twilight League

The First Annual Great River Twilight League was an astounding success. The league consisted of 10 two-man teams, with the winners decided on the final night. Congratulations to Rich Smith and Glenn Marshall for claiming first place and going undefeated with a record of 6-0. They defeated Paul and Peter Vimini who also were undefeated going into the final match. I would like to give a special thanks to every team that participated, hopefully with your word of mouth our next twilight league will have even more participants.

### The Final Standings:

1. Rich Smith/Glenn Marshall 6 points \$200/ player
2. Paul Vimini/Peter Vimini 5 points \$100/player
3. Doug Clemons/Bob Morton 4.5 points
4. Bob Miner/Mark Mulston 4 points
5. Dan Fee/Chris Neubert 2.5 points
6. (Tie) Ray Romeo/Joe Arcoma 2 points
6. (Tie) Ron Schmitt/Rob Kroepel 2 points
6. (Tie) Frank Barucci/Chris Lynch 2 points
9. (Tie) Russ Colon/John Sayour 1 point
9. (Tie) Carl Walker/Mike Orefice 1 point



**July 11, 2018**

**Joel Gott Wines**

**Green Bean Salad**

*Maui Onions, Garlic Bread Croutons  
Creamy Herb Vinaigrette*

**Pinot Gris (2017)**

**Cornmeal Catfish "Po' Boy"**

*Southern Style Remoulade, Heirloom Tomato  
Gem Lettuce, Grilled Baguette*

**Zinfandel (2016)**

**Braised Brisket of Beef**

*Raspberry Bourbon Glaze  
New Potato Salad, Marinated Tomatoes*

**Cabernet Sauvignon 815 (2015)**

**Sorbet Trio**

*Strawberry, Raspberry, Blackberry  
Fresh Mint*

**Grenache Alakai (2013)**

# SUMMER BBQ

**FEATURING  
A STEEL DRUM BAND!**

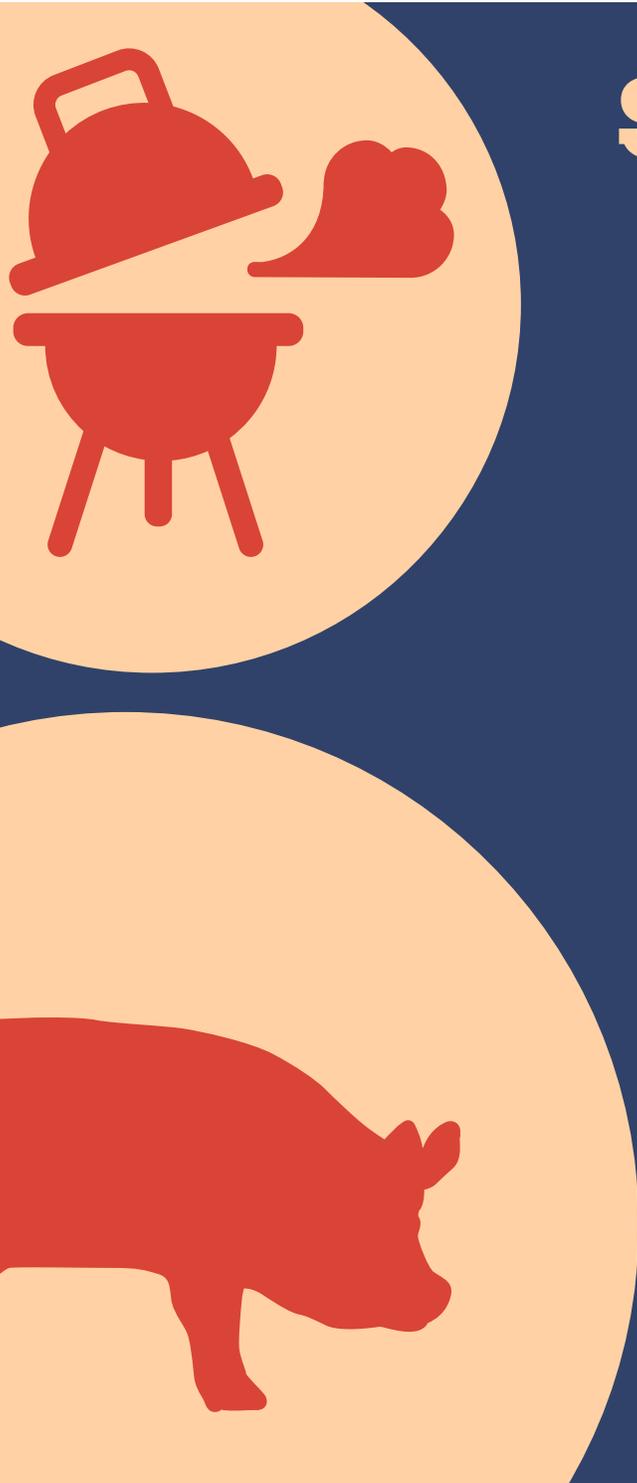
**\$30 PER PERSON + tax**

**PIG ROAST  
BARBEQUE BRISKET  
BARBEQUE CHICKEN  
POTATO SALAD  
PASTA SALAD  
CAESAR SALAD  
CORN ON THE COB  
COLESLAW  
SEASONAL VEGETABLES  
DESSERT**

**CASH BAR**

**July 20th | 6:00 PM  
On the Fireplace Patio**

**Invitation to follow via email**



---

# Members



**August 10<sup>th</sup> 4:00pm**

**\$65 for Guests-Includes Golf & Pre-fix Dinner**

**\$25 for Members-cart fees and green fees apply**

**Extra guests welcome for Dinner-\$25 excludes tax and gratuity**

**RSVP by August 3<sup>rd</sup> (203) 876-8051 Ext 111 or  
karina@grgolfclub.com**