



December 2019

THE RIVER



TOYS FOR TOTS

**DROP OFF
UNWRAPPED GIFTS
BY SUNDAY,
DECEMBER 15TH**

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

G R E A T R I V E R G O L F C L U B

Compliments of the Chef



Greetings my culinary friends,

The new Pub and Lunch menus are live and we have been getting a great response so far. With the end of the golf season, the restaurant has slowed down some, but the team and I are keeping busy with testing new recipes and menu ideas and we are ready to serve you some of our new and exciting offerings! The new dinner menu is also in the process of being completed, which will have a new upscale look and feature seasonal comfort food as well as classic dishes. Keep your eye out in the coming weeks for the launch!

The weather may be getting colder, but hot plates are waiting for you here at Monty's. Although golf season is ending, the club is still in full operation with great events like our monthly Wine Club dinners, as well as our annual Brunch with Santa. The brunch menu will have many new offerings for the whole family, so reserve your spot today before it fills up! Call (203) 701-0051 to book your table.

The holidays are fast upon us, so we'd like to remind you that Monty's and Great River are a spectacular place to host a special evening or a large event. I look forward to seeing you in the dining room soon. As always, I'm available for all of your questions and concerns.

Sincerely,
Executive Chef Matt Adkins
madkins@grgolfclub.com





GREAT RIVER GOLF CLUB MEMBER EVENT

COOKIE SWAP & WREATH BUILDING

HOLIDAY CRAFT NIGHT

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2019
6 PM - 9 PM

COMPLIMENTARY WINE & HORS D'OEUVRES
Please bring your favorite homemade cookies to share!

\$45 per person
Kindly RSVP | 203-876-8051 or karina@grgolfclub.com



Greens & Grounds

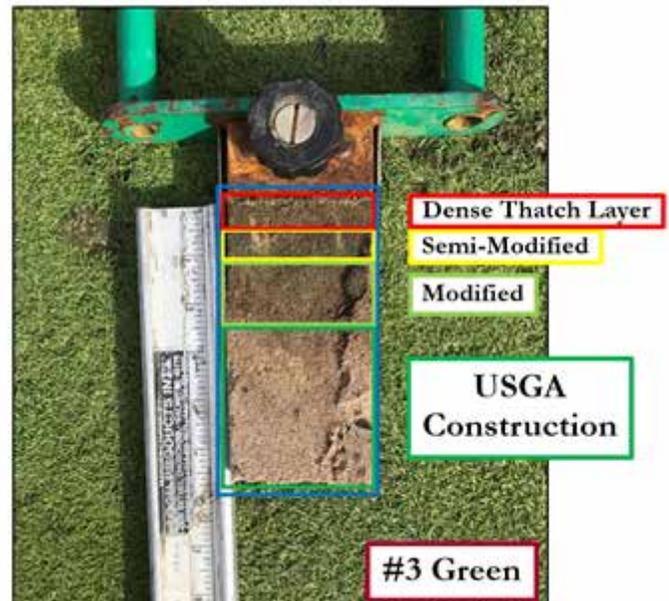
We have had a very busy month of November here at the Greens & Grounds department with a number of adjustments and quick work to put the golf course in the best position possible for the upcoming winter as frosts set in and temperatures drop.

Fall 2019 Aerification

Despite losing 3 of our 7 allotted days of aerification procedures due to heavy rainfall, we were able to adjust and successfully complete all our goals as planned on short schedule.

To address the specific issues with the thatch in the upper inches of our Putting Greens, we implemented a two-pronged approach- aggressive core aerification and sand backfilling to open channels for air, water, & root development to the original USGA Construction below, and an even more aggressive Graden verti-cutting procedure to address organic matter & surface stability in the top 1" below the surface.

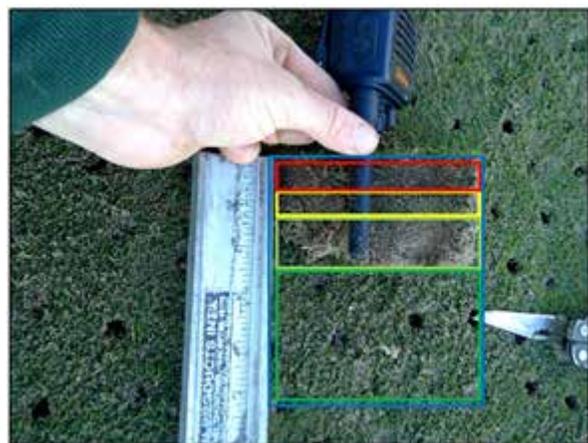
By coring our Greens to a 4" depth and verti-cutting to a 1" depth, we have accomplished numerous goals specifically targeted for this property. Our Greens at Great River were constructed 20 years ago to a USGA Specification, as can be seen left in the diagram. The soil profile is constructed with 12" of well-draining sand mix to promote rapid water movement down to the gravel & drainage system below, allowing for dry, firm playing surfaces and creating an optimal environment for turfgrass above to root, breath, and hold stability. Over time, the decaying and regeneration of the grass plants develops a layer of organic matter, or "thatch" in the upper inches of the profile. In the soil profile to the right, we can see both the development of this thatch layer of the past 20 years above the original USGA Construction, as well as how it has been modified historically.



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Greens & Grounds (cont.)

By pulling out cores to a 4" depth (the circles seen on the surface) and backfilling these holes with coarse sand, we create channels for air and water to have direct access down through the dense thatch layers to the original USGA sand & drainage system below. By moving water downwards, we are able to not only promote firm playing conditions above, but also promote root development down with water movement and overall plant health. The coring method was performed on the tightest possible spacing between individual core holes in order to maximize the number of these channels possible, putting our greens in the best position possible going into this upcoming winter and early spring.



Following core removal and sand backfilling, we aggressively verti-cut through the greens to remove a high-volume percent of organic matter from the top 1" of the soil, which can be seen in the diagram highlighted in red and yellow. Once this material has been pulled out of the soil and removed from the surface, we filled these voids with an additional application of topdressing sand, further promoting stability and firmness to the top surface where we see and experience the greatest effect on playability. In total, we successfully affected over 14% of surface area, removed 96 cubic tons of organic material, and injected 120,000 pounds of kiln-dried silica sand into our Greens.



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Greens & Grounds (cont.)

We also removed large volumes of organic matter and loosening years of soil compaction in our Fairways on the final day of our aerification week. Given the weather and limited time window, we rallied to successfully core aerify, blow, vacuum, and clean all 23 Acres of Fairways on the golf course. I have no doubt that this will prove to be a major step forward for the drainage, firmness, plant health, and overall playability of our Fairways going into this winter and early spring.

Congratulations to Jeff Swanson

Our 1st Assistant Superintendent Jeff Swanson recently made a monumental career move and has accepted the Assistant Superintendent position at Greenwich Country Club with Superintendent Fred Doheny, an icon in the turfgrass management industry. Jeff has been a leader and essential facet of the Greens & Grounds operation for the past several years, and his help to me the past few weeks during the transition cannot be understated. I feel that this career move not only speaks volumes about Jeff's character and contributions to Great River, but also the notoriety of Great River Golf Club in promoting its staff to top-level clubs. Jeff's presence will be missed, and we thank him for all he has done here at Great River.



We are shifting our focus towards a number of upcoming projects and look forward to a busy winter season ahead in preparation for spring. We at Greens & Grounds wish the entire Great River family a wonderful holiday season and look forward to an exciting golf season ahead.

Sincerely,

J.P. MacPherson

Superintendent



Christmas Spectacular

Four Course Prix Fixe Dinner

MONTY'S RIVER GRILLE
130 Coram Lane | Milford, CT

Saturday, December 14, 2019

Seatings beginning at 5:30 PM

'Tis the season to be jolly! Enjoy a holiday-inspired prix fixe dinner while listening to some festive Christmas tunes sung by local musician Tony Riccio.

Don't be shy – sing along to your favorites!

\$48 per person
Reservations are Required
(203) 701 - 0051

Turkey Shoot Recap

The 2019 Cross-Country Turkey Shoot should be renamed to the Arctic Open with temperatures below 40 degrees throughout the day. The low temps were no match for the toughness of our membership as 47 brave souls did their best to stick a tee in the frozen ground. The course was setup as a 10-hole, par 45, featuring some dangerous par 3's over water and holes that measured over 650 yards.



Our winning team featured Matt Maleri, Matt Novak, and Matt Healy. The team could not find another Matt to play, so they had to settle for Head Golf Professional, Jason Loomis. The team posted a -9, score of 36 to claim a 1 shot victory. The shot of the day belongs to Melvin Saunders who made a hole-in-one on the cross-country course 3rd hole (4th tee to 5th green). Today's event also featured a closest to the hole challenge. Players stopped on their way to the 9th green and tried to skip golf balls across the water onto the green. Mike Evans was our big winner, knocking it to 18 feet! Congratulations to our winners and hats off to everyone for sticking it out in the cold weather.

1st Place – Score 36

Maleri, Matthew
Healy, Matt
Novak, Matthew
Loomis, Jason

Tie-2nd – Score 37

Agee, Richard
Macdonald, Ryan
McKinnon, Matt
Fuller, Mack

Tie-2nd – Score 37

Ivan-Pal, Jake
Heslin, Kevin
Chacho, Jim
Burns, Shawn

Letter from the Pro's Desk

Dear Members,

I can't believe the golf season is already coming to a close. It seems like yesterday I was moving all my things into my office, probably because most of my things are still sitting in those boxes. To start a new position in the middle of a season was quite an experience. The balancing act of learning the current operating systems, trying to meet all of you, managing the tournament



schedule, and evaluating the outside operations certainly added a few gray hairs to my growing collection. Now, as I sit back and evaluate the last four months, I can say undoubtedly that I am very excited for the 2020 season. During my brief time here, I have noticed a few things that we can improve upon that will make a positive impact on member satisfaction both on and off the course. Below are a few things that you can look forward to next season:

Customer Service Upgrade: While the employees in the golf operation department are all great and work extremely hard, their performance expectations and responsibilities have never been fully outlined. Once I combine their hard work with proper training, support, and clear expectations of what world class customer service is, members and guests will be guaranteed to experience the "Great" in Great River.

Tournaments: Upon reviewing this past year's schedule, I feel there are some good opportunities to enhance current events as well as add some new ones into the mix. Moving some dates around, adding mixed golf events, and restructuring season-long events should open the doors for more members to play. The presentation, communication, and the social aspect of these events will also see a large improvement.

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Letter from the Pro's Desk (cont.)

Member Enjoyment & Benefits: At most golf clubs, many of the members have at least one unifying characteristic in common: a love for the game of golf. But, there is another great benefit to belonging to a club, and that is meeting new people! You may hit it off with others who have similar interests or careers, or you may find unexpected friends whose backgrounds are quite different from yours. To help nurture this at Great River, I have created a few weekend games designed to do just that. Friday afternoons will feature a pick-up game where players who sign up will be paired randomly and compete in a team format. Saturdays we will offer a skins game with both Net and Gross divisions. On Sundays, the big hitters (or anyone looking to ruin a perfectly good Sunday) can join the Black Tee Game. These additions, along with some minor tweaks to the Wednesday Twilight League, will offer members new and old the opportunity to meet and get to know one another.

These are just a few of the many things I have planned for next season and for the future of Great River Golf Club. Keep an eye out after the holidays for a more in-depth schedule for the 2020 golf season. It has been an absolute pleasure getting to know all of you thus far, and I look forward to growing your enjoyment for the game as your new Head Golf Professional. As always, please don't hesitate to contact me if there is anything I can do to help you or your golf game.

Happy Holidays,

Jason Loomis, PGA

P.S. As quick as this season came to an end, the next one is right around the corner so don't forget to take advantage of the winter lessons package on the next page!



Don't Put Your Game on Ice This Winter!!



Winter Lesson Programs

Full Winter Package ~ \$600

(7 sessions for the price of 5)

Golf Game Analysis (TPI Screen, K-Vest , Full Swing, Short Game, Putting), goal setting, and practice plan

Club Fitting & Distance Gapping

5–1 Hour lessons

1/2 hour follow up lessons at reduce rate of \$50

Winter Training Sessions ~ \$300

(5 lessons and an assessment for the price of 4 half hour lessons)

Golf Game Analysis (TPI Screen, K-Vest , Full Swing, Short Game, Putting), goal setting, and practice plan

5 - 30 minute lessons

1/2 hour follow up lessons at reduced rate of \$50

Distance Gapping ~ \$50

We work through your whole bag giving you stock distances for each club. Then we will analyze the data to ensure proper yardage gapping between each club and any equipment/setup recommendations.

Perfect Gift for any Golfer Regardless of Skill Level



For More Information Contact

Jason Loomis, PGA

jloomis@grgolfclub.com

Tom Rosati Golf Academy is Open Year Round!

Winter Rates

Individual One-Hour Lesson (Adult): \$120

Individual One-Hour Lesson (Junior): \$80

Series of Six (Adult): \$660

Series of Six (Junior): \$420

TPI Golf Fitness

Initial TPI Functional Movement Screening and K-Vest Swing Analysis (two hours)

Adults: \$180

Juniors: \$150

Golf Fitness Training Session

every student must complete the TPI screening before starting this program

Adults: \$130, six sessions for \$700

Juniors: \$100, six sessions for \$520



Trackman Simulation Available in January

Play some of the best courses in the world with the best launch monitor in the world. Virtual Golf 2 is the latest software update to TrackMan's simulator golf solutions, and it delivers an experience that redefines what is possible to achieve in a simulator environment. Every training session, every hole you play, every fun tournament you have with your friends... it's all faithful to the true feeling of the game. World-famous courses appear in simply stunning detail. The gameplay is unbelievably smooth and all your club and ball data is shown with unerring, pinpoint accuracy. Email me at tom@golfclub.com or call (203) 876-8051, ext. 117 for more information.



Phil Mickelson Speed Trains!

Try Speed Training This Off Season

A great way to increase flexibility, improve stability, increase strength and pick up a few yards is to start speed training. There are a variety of speed trainers available and the process involves swinging a long stick with different weights. We use a company called Super Speed Golf and they have three different size sticks, all weighted differently. The training sessions will start off by swinging the lighter stick first and gradually working up to the heaviest stick. The training routine consists of swinging lefty and righty with a certain number of reps. Over time, we see speeds increase and form and balance improve. It's great for all ages. Right now, numerous tour players use them, our SHU golf team uses them, and my top junior players use them. Speed training combined with good golf instruction this winter is guaranteed to make you come out strong next season!

Happy Holidays!

Tom Rosati

Brunch with Santa!

AT GREAT RIVER GOLF CLUB

Sunday, December 15, 2019

Seatings from 10 AM to 12 PM



ENJOY A BRUNCH BUFFET
& MEET SANTA CLAUS!

Adults - \$36

Children 5 to 12 - \$18

Children under 5 - FREE

Reservations are required

203-701-0051

Membership Update



We would like to warmly welcome the following new members to Great River Golf Club in 2020:

Pierre & Cheryl Dziubina

Gerry Katz

Jeffrey Magid

Paul Seperack

We are looking forward to having you as members!

Current Members,

A few reminders as we approach the end of the year:

Please stop by to pick up your bags from our storage area. All bags should be picked up by December 10th at the latest.

If you don't plan on keeping your locker next season, please drop off your keys at the Pro Shop desk by December 10th.

Also, remember that all Executive Member Credit Balances must be used by Tuesday, December 31st. If you have a remaining balance, stop in for a meal at Monty's River Grille or do some Holiday Shopping in the Pro Shop!

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding your current membership or renewing for next year.

Happy Holidays!

Sincerely,
Karin Attolino
(203) 876-8051 ext. 111
karina@rgolfclub.com

2020 Membership Options Now Available!

No Assessments!						
	Executive	Full Privilege	Family	Junior (26-40 years)	Junior (19-25 years)	Junior (18 & under or a full time student)
Green Fees	\$95 weekday \$115 weekend	unlimited	unlimited for two Household Family Members	unlimited	unlimited	unlimited
*Cart Fees *Push Cart Rental	\$16 \$8	\$16 \$8	\$16 \$8	\$16 \$8	\$16 \$8	\$16 \$8
Use of Practice Area	unlimited	unlimited	unlimited for two Household Family Members	unlimited	unlimited	unlimited
*Private Locker	\$250	included	2 included	\$250	Upper Locker Room	Upper Locker Room
*Bag Storage	\$200	included	2 included	\$200	\$200	\$200
*Push Cart Storage	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250
GHIN	included	included	2 included	included	included	included
Guest Passes **See Below	6 passes (additional guests are charged at public rate)	8 passes (additional guests are charged at public rate)	10 passes (additional guests are charged at public rate)	none	none	none
*Monthly Minimum	None	\$125/month (8 months)	\$250/month (8 months)	\$100/month (8 months)	none	none
*Annual Fee	\$6,360	\$6,890	\$10,000	\$4,000	\$3,500	\$2,500
*Plus applicable taxes						
**Individual guests can play a maximum of 4 times during the season using guest passes.						
50% Due by February 1, 2020 Balance Due April 1, 2020 Deposit and final payment must be paid in full by the due dates to avoid a 10% increase in total dues.						

YOU'RE INVITED!
GREAT RIVER GOLF CLUB MEMBERS

Christmas Holiday Party

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2019
5:30 – 7:30 PM

CELEBRATE THE SEASON WITH YOUR GREAT RIVER FAMILY!

COMPLIMENTARY COCKTAILS & HORS D'OEUVRES

KINDLY RSVP BY THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12

203-876-8051, EXT. 111
KARINA@GRGOLFCLUB.COM

Pro Shop Corner

DECEMBER SALES

Ladies Apparel 50% off

Men's Short Sleeve Polos 50% off

Golf Shoes 30% off

Belts 40% off

Titleist SM7 Vokey Wedges
\$109.99

TaylorMade Drivers, FW and Hybrids
20% off

Fall Apparel Multiples Sale
(outerwear, long sleeve shirts and sweaters)
25% off one item
30% off two items
40% off three or more items

What's Hot in the Shop?



**Oakley Frogskin Lite & Frogskin Mix
Sunglasses**



**Sun Mountain 14 Way
Stand Bag (8 colors)**



**Sun Mountain
Cube Travel Cover**



**Bag Boy Nitron Auto Open Push Cart
(Golf Digest Hot List!)**

What's Hot in the Shop? (cont.)



FootJoy Country Club Casual Wingtip



Peter Millar Hyper Glide Sneaker



Peter Millar Suffolk Quilted Travel Coat



A SWEET TREAT THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

FREE PERSONALIZATION ON ANY TITLEIST GOLF BALL MODEL

NOVEMBER 1ST - DECEMBER 31ST · 1 DOZEN MINIMUM · 1 WEEK LEAD-TIME
ORDERS PLACED BY DECEMBER 10TH ARE GUARANTEED TO ARRIVE BY DECEMBER 24TH

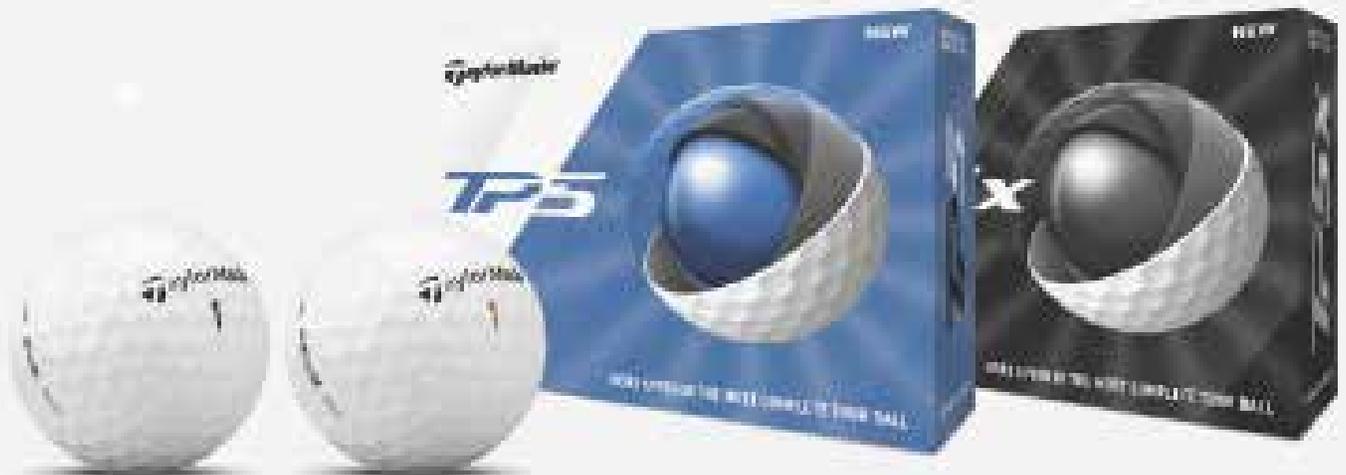
Titleist
#1 ball in golf.®

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FIVE LAYERS.
ZERO COMPROMISES.
AND FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

\$39.99



Other retail price: \$49.99. MSRP: \$49.99. While supplies last.
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Event Planner Corner

Greetings!

As we reflect upon this past year, we all agree that 2019 was a very busy year! We had a total of 32 weddings, welcoming over 4,125 wedding guests! We also provided almost 200 tours of our property for social and corporate events.

As we look ahead to 2020, we are excited to ring in the New Year with

a very special New Year's Eve Wedding! Additionally, we are honored to host many SHU Alumni events, including 8 alumni weddings so far.



Photo: David Frost Photography

If you know of anyone looking for the perfect venue for their special event, please have them give us a call at **(203) 876-8051** or email **ghunt@grgolfclub.com** for availability, menus and pricing.



Happy Holidays!

Best Regards,

Gail Hunt, Social & Corporate Event
Sales Manager

Erin Grady, Assistant Event Planner



BOOK YOUR
**CHRISTMAS
HOLIDAY
PARTIES**

AT GREAT RIVER GOLF CLUB

It's not too early to start thinking about
the end of the year festivities.
Let us help plan the perfect holiday event!

Corporate & Social Events
Accommodating parties of 20-200
Luncheons, Cocktail Hour, Buffets & Seated Dinners

Contact Gail Hunt to book today!
ghunt@rgolfclub.com 203.876.8051 ext. 132



New Year's Day Brunch

MONTY'S RIVER GRILLE
AT GREAT RIVER GOLF CLUB



01 . 01 . 20



SEATINGS FROM 10 AM - 12 PM

\$20.20 PER PERSON

INCLUDES AN ENTREE AND COMPLIMENTARY
BLOODY MARY, MIMOSA, OR BELLINI

RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED

(203) 701 - 0051

