

RIVER

2022: Year in Review

Dearest Membership & Staff,

As we enjoy the Holiday Season and, with a New Year days away, we have an ideal time to celebrate our blessings with family and friends while at the same time looking forward to future joys, challenges and achievements. For me personally, as well as all of the Great River Family it is also a perfect moment to pause and reflect.

So, with that sentiment in mind, I hope you will indulge me while I hit the rewind button for a bit.

As hard as it is to believe for me, my tenure as General Manager of Great River Golf Club began nearly eight years ago, coinciding with Sacred Heart University's purchase of the property. I remember those first few days vividly. While indeed there was a sense of excitement about the possibilities of the new ownership, there was also a mood of anxiety and concern.

Would Great River remain a semi-private golf course? ...or, for that matter, would it remain a golf course at all? What was the University's vision? What was their commitment...to aging buildings and infrastructure? ...to course improvements and maintenance? ...to cost control and value?

These are just a few of the questions I was confronted with from members and staff in those early days. In addition, after my review of the club facilities and operations, I knew there was going to be some bumps along the road in elevating Great River to its full potential.

Fast forward to today. We now know Sacred Heart not only had vision and commitment, but also a promise. That promise was to transform Great River into one of the best, if not the best, Semi-Private Clubs in New England. A club that would also garner many media accolades and awards. Furthermore, in my opinion, Great River is now a club that provides its members with the finest staff, golf course, facilities and value around.

Our transformation included too many changes and improvements to list, but I would like to note a few; on the course- Removing Phragmites from the pond on 9 significantly improved the approach to the green with the club house as a backdrop. Sprayers on 3, 4, and 9 added to the beauty of the course and mitigated the algae. Facilities were also upgraded- Beautiful new member locker room, outside furniture, grill room with full bar, new energy efficient golf carts with GPS, ballroom carpets, new chairs along with paint added to Monty's décor. The transformation will continue in 2023! New irrigation system with controllers to allow us to put water where it is needed and when it is needed, this project should be completed May 2023.

Just think, we started with a member list just over 100, 8 short years ago. Today we have 315 and a waiting list! We have also acquired 17 Corporate Memberships during the same time and built a professional golf staff who has created enormous excitement over our many member, guest and family events and tournaments. In summary we have it all here at Great River Golf Club.

That is why it is bittersweet for me to say goodbye. And, although I am excited for a new chapter in my life, I will miss Great River and all of you. I am also confident and pleased that I leave you in good hands. Jason will lead the way now and rest assured- Tracy, Karin, Dan and team will do the rest.

Thank You, Farewell and God Bless,

Mark J. Appelberg









Opening Day Shamble Saturday, April 30





White Squirrel Member-Member Tournament (Day One) Saturday, June 11





White Squirrel Member-Member Tournament (Day Two) Sunday, June 12



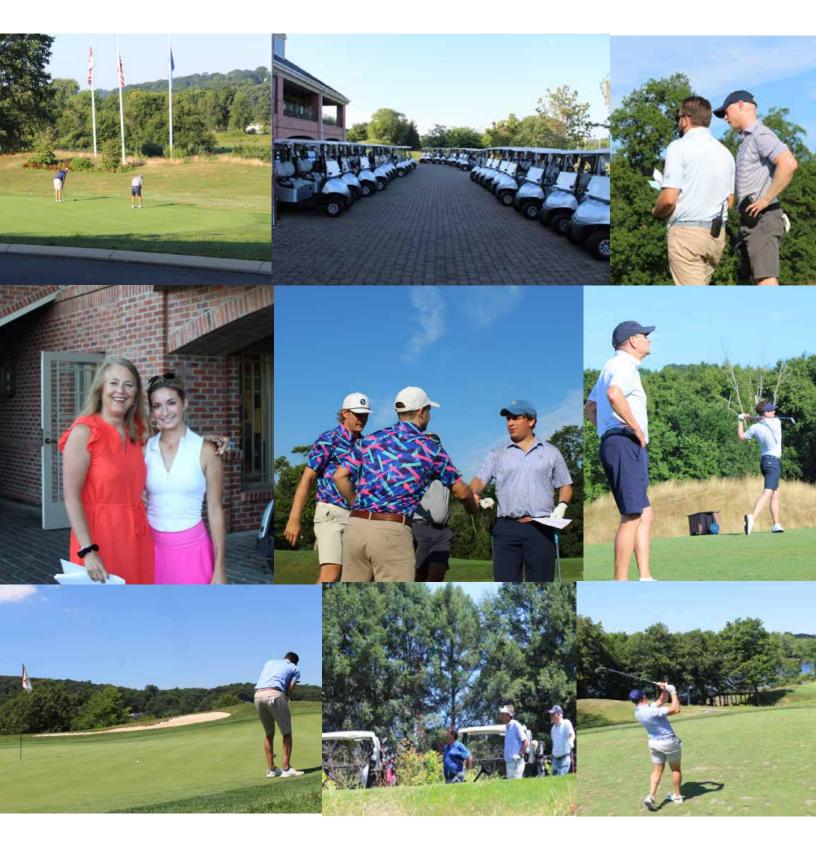


Great River Invitational (Day One) Friday, July 22





Great River Invitational (Day Two) Saturday, July 23





Great River Invitational (Day Three) Sunday, July 24





Club Championship (Senior, Women's and Junior) Sunday, August 28th & Saturday-Monday September 3-5





Club Championship (Men's) Saturday-Monday September 3-5



Championship Flight

Winner: Adam Friedman Runner Up: Connor Anstis



<u>FIRST FLIGHT</u> Winner: Mario Lucibello Runner Up: Tony Coppola



SECOND FLICHT Winner: John Yavorka Runner Up: Matthew Fontaine



THILD FLIGHT Winner: Chris Saja Runner Up: Matt Healy



FOURTH FLIGHT Winner: Bob Intravia Runner Up: Brian McQuillan



FIFTII FLIGIIT Winner: Sean O'Rourke Runner Up: Chris Lynch



SIXT11 FLIG11T Winner: Mike McGrath Runner Up: Bill Doolittle





Fall One Day Member-Guest Tournament Friday, September 16





Paint & Pour and Cookie Swap Nights Thursday, September 15 and Tuesday, December 5







Brunch With Santa Sunday, December 11





Brunch With Santa Sunday, December 11





HAPPY NEW YEAR! SEE YOU IN 2023



