



OCTOBER 2021

THE RIVER

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This Month at a Glance

Wednesday, October 6

Wine Club: Oktoberfest

**Saturday, October 9
- Sunday, October 10**

Ryder Cup

Friday, October 22

Closing Day Tournament
& Awards Dinner

Tuesday, October 26

Wedding Steps Bridal Show



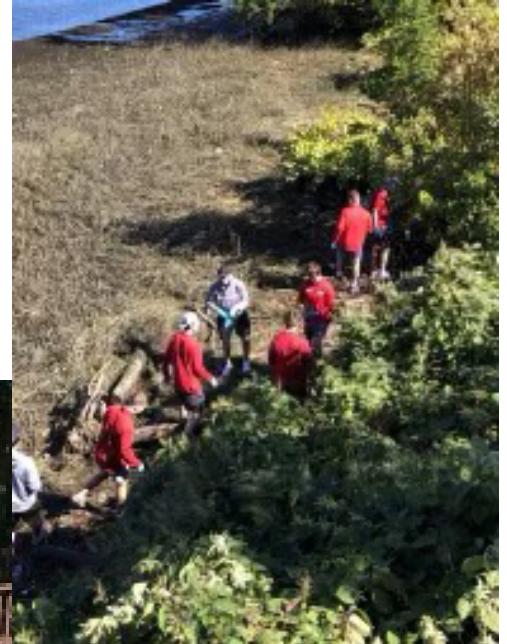
River Clean Up

Thank you to the Sacred Heart University Men's Hockey Team for their outstanding efforts in the Housatonic River Clean Up!!

The team enjoyed a friendly 9 hole competition after working hard to keep our property beautiful & free of debris.



**THANK
YOU!!**



Food & Beverage



Dear Members,

As mentioned in our last newsletter, autumn is truly a beautiful time of the year, especially in the culinary world! The colors are warm and vibrant, and fruits & vegetables become riper and tastier during this season. Look for sweet root vegetables, sturdy winter squashes, hearty green vegetables (broccoli, spinach, kale, celery and artichokes) to crisp apples, juicy pears and whole grains. With this being said, Chef Matt and his Team have been working on new Lunch and Dinner menus. You can expect to see these new Fall/Winter menus replacing our Late Summer offerings within the next couple of weeks!

Also, on Wednesday, October 6th at 6:30pm we will be celebrating Oktoberfest with our Wine Club Dinner. We will be featuring wines from Germany and Austria and traditional cuisine from that part of the world. Please make reservations soon since we anticipate a large turnout.

As, always we look forward to serving you, your family and friends!

Sincerely,

Dan Piccolello, Food & Beverage Director
Matthew Adkins, Executive Chef



Chef Matthew Adkins Presents

A Taste of Germany: Oktoberfest

Wednesday, October 6TH, 2021 | 6:30pm

FIRST

Mustard Greens, Butterkase Cheese, Pumpnickel Crouton, Bacon Vinaigrette

Paired With: Huber Sparkling Rose (Austria)

SECOND

Hungarian Goulash

Stewed Tenderloin of Beef, Pearl Onions and Roasted Root Vegetables,
with Pan Jus over Beet Dumplings

Paired With: Huber, Traisental Zweigelt (Austria)

THIRD

Kassler En Croute

Smoked Porkloin, Dusseldorf Mustard, Flaky Pastry, Pumpkin Puree,
Braised Purple Kale, Gingersnap Gravy

Paired With: Dr. Loosen Riesling (Germany)

FINAL

Baked Apple Dumpling, Brandy Caramel Vanilla Ice Cream, Truffles

Paired With: Trimbach Muscat Reserve (Alsace)

RSVP ON CLUBSTER OR EMAIL KARINA@GRGOLFCLUB.COM BY OCTOBER 3rd, 2021

CANCELLATIONS AFTER 10/3 WILL BE CHARGED FULL PRICE

Tournament Club



The Ryder Cup

October 9th & 10th - Starting times at 8:00am

The greatest honor from a year of hard work is to be invited to play in the annual Great River Ryder Cup. The top 36 season point winners qualify for this exciting tournament. The event will be five 9 hole matches over two days

Entry Fee: \$95 includes tournament uniform & lunch both days.

2021 Closing Day Tournament & Awards Banquet

Friday, October 22, 1:00pm Shotgun

The Closing Day Tournament will be an ABCD – 1,2,3 Shamble. Teams will be paired using an ABCD system and will play a Shamble in which all team players will tee off, the team will select the best drive, and all players will play their own ball in from that location. The team will record 1 best ball on the par 3's, 2 best balls on the par 4's, and 3 best balls on the par 5's.

Entry Fee: The cost is \$85 per player which includes lunch, dinner, & contest prizes

Awards Dinner: After the tournament concludes, we will have an awards dinner to highlight all the winners of 2021. All members, especially tournament winners are invited to attend the dinner if they cannot play in the tournament.

Great River Winners' Circle



Bob Intravia Wins 2021 Great River Open

The 2019 Great River Player of the Year, **Bob Intravia**, claims another major tournament victory! Bob and **Matt Maleri** beat a field of 64 to battle for the title in this year's Great River Open. Bob got the best of Matt, but hats off too Matt for a great effort and a great season in our club major championships, securing his place alongside of Bob as one of Great River's top players.

Great River / Pine Orchard Combined Ladies Team wins the CWGA Peggy Jones Cup

The following ladies competed on behalf of Great River:
Andree Acampora, Myra MacMillan, Jo Rasmussen, Darlene Tranquilli, Pat Giuliano, Val McMillan, Christine Yan, and Cheryl Dziubina

The matches start in August, and end in September. A total of five matches are played in a match play format.

This is the second time the ladies won the Cup since being involved in the CWGA . Every member contributed to this win and our team won all 5 matches.

**Way to Go Ladies!!
Congratulations, we are so proud of you!**

Men's Club Championship Results



Thomas Yavorka wins the 2021 Men's Club Championship! Thomas and Bill Mackey were the two finalists in this year's Men's Club Championship. The two players traded blows in a back & fourth match, then Yavorka pulled ahead 2up with two to go. But Mackey stayed resilient and refused to quit and won 17 and 18! The two players headed into a sudden death playoff. After a pair of pars from the contenders, Yavorka found the green on the 2nd playoff hole and was able to close out the match.

Congratulations to both players on a hard-fought match and congratulations to all our flight winners!



Flight 1

Winner: Alex Cardona
Runner-up: Richard Best



Flight 2

Winner: Michael Lynch
Runner-up: Stewart Gross



Flight 3

Winner: Chris Saja
Runner-up: Willie DeMeo



Flight 4

Winner: Melvin Saunders
Runner-up: James Schwandert



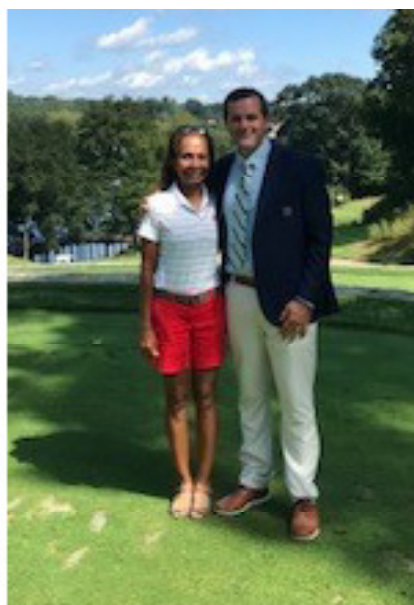
Flight 5

Winner: Geza Ziegler
Runner-up: Rob Hoxie



Flight 6

Winner: Michael Gray
Runner-up: Tom Jasinski



2021 Women's Club Championship Results

We had an epic finish today in the 2021 Women's Club Championship! Jo Rasmussen came into the final round with a 4-shot lead and despite making birdies on holes 6, 7, & 8, her lead was cut down to 2 strokes at the turn. Myra Macmillan kept applying the pressure on the back nine and turned in a second-round score of 75 and a two-day total 158. Watching Myra's great play, Rasmussen kept her game steady down the final stretch and posted a round two score of 78 for a total score of 157, winning the 2021 Women's Club Championship by 1 stroke!

The Net Division was just as close of a race with Jo Rasmussen & Christy Machan finishing tied for 1st with a two-day total of 145. Machan's 9 stroke improvement of over her round one score has earned her the spot of this year's Net Division Champion.



Great River Shines at Pro-Club Championship

Fresh off their Club Championship victories, Jo Rasmussen and Thomas Yavorka joined Head Golf Professional Jason Loomis at the 2021 Pro-Club Champion tournament hosted by the Connecticut PGA Section. Both Thomas & Jo played a better of partners stableford with Jason and kept their hot play going! Thomas & Jason took home 3rd place in the Men's Division, and Jo & Jason captured a 2nd place finish in the Women's Division. Great job representing Great River team!

Tom Rosati Golf Academy

BEN JAMES RANKED #1 JUNIOR GOLFER IN THE UNITED STATES

Junior golf scoreboard rankings has recently ranked Ben James the number one junior golfer in the United States through his performance over the last year. In addition, the American Junior Golf Association has selected Ben as First Team All American for the second straight year. Congrats, Ben, on an achievement



that no other golfer from Connecticut has ever achieved!

Ben recently returned from Whistling Straights as a member of the United States Junior Ryder Cup team. He was one of only six boys in the United States to be selected. Unfortunately it was just an exhibition because the European team was unable to travel here due to COVID-19.

It's been an incredible year of achievements. Ben is a senior at Hamden Hall and will attend the University of Virginia next Fall.

FRAME BY FRAME OF #1!

I figured, why not analyze the number one player in the country? It can only help you! (See next page for frames)

Frame #1 - textbook set up with the driver, slight tilt of the spine, perfect ball position and hand position even with the ball.

Frame #2 - the hands are just outside the right thigh and the hands are in a hinged position where it's parallel to the ground, something we should all strive to do, also notice how he's already loading into his right thigh.

Frame #3 - the three-quarter position creates a perfect L between the left forearm and the shaft, another good position to copy and you can see how the weight is still loading into that right thigh.

Frame #4 - the top of the swing with a perfect beautiful shoulder turn and a perfect hand position, with no extra arm or hand movement at the top of the swing and again a perfect load into the right thigh.

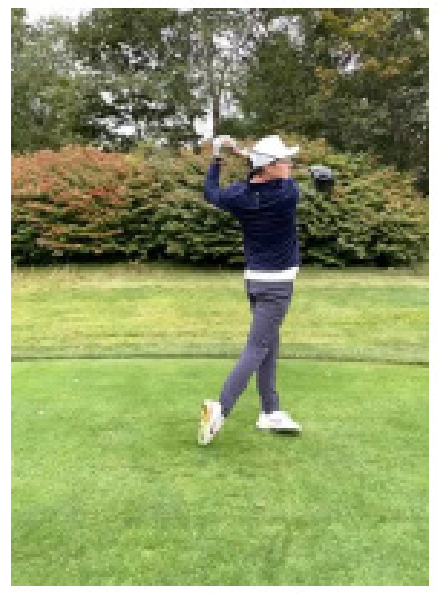
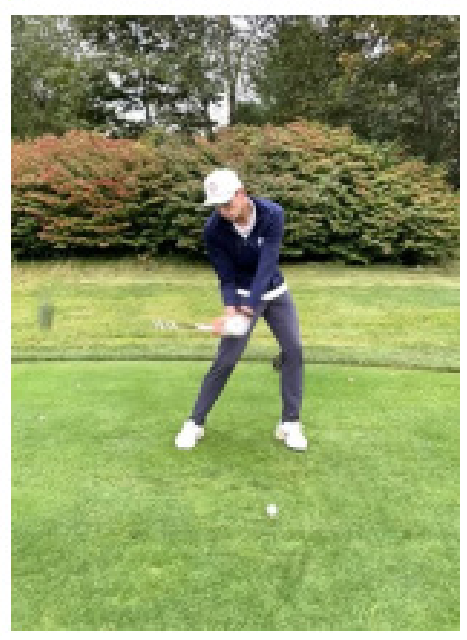
Frame #5 - it doesn't get any better than this world class position you can try to get there but I doubt you will!

Frame #6 - again an incredible spot, hands in front of right thigh while shaft is parallel good luck trying that one!

Frame #7 - impact position again dead perfect, hands slightly ahead of the ball, square club face with the head slightly behind the ball, perfect rotation and shift also.

Frame #8 - post impact head still behind don't even try this, or you'll be at the chiropractor the next day, perfect extension and release with the arms but a lagging right leg which we're working on.

Frame #9 - a full follow through position, again don't this, you won't get there!



Pro Shop Corner



CONNECTICUT PGA MERCHANTISER OF THE YEAR

Be sure to congratulate Head Golf Professional Jason Loomis as the Connecticut PGA awarded him the 2021 Merchandiser of the Year for a public course. In Jason's acceptance speech he quoted "It's a great honor to receive the award for Connecticut PGA merchandiser of the Year, not only for myself, but for everyone here at Great River. I have been fortunate in my career to work and learn from some of the top golf courses and golf professionals in the country, then given the opportunity to take those experiences and bring them here to Great River and Sacred Heart University. I am very blessed to receive this award, but this award belongs just as much (if not more) to Karin Attolino for all her hard work and dedication. Karin has been our golf shop manager here at Great River for over 15 years and is one of the best managers I have ever had the pleasure to work with. Combining her experience with my experience, plus the addition of our new assistant Brendan Burke, the golf shop at Great River will continue to be one of the best in state for years to come."

Congratulations to Jason, Karin, and the entire staff at Great River!

The background of the image shows a clothing store interior. On the left, a mannequin is wearing a white short-sleeved polo shirt with dark stripes on the collar. To the right, there are wooden display tables with folded clothes. In the background, there are large pendant lamps with pleated shades and a framed picture of a landscape on the wall. The floor is covered with a patterned carpet.

Limited Time Only
All Short Sleeve Shirts
And
Foot Joy Shoes Sale
1 piece— 25% off
2 or more pieces—
35% off



Shorts and Skorts

**For a limited time-
All shorts and skorts are
Buy One Pair,
Get One Pair Free!
All leftover shorts and skorts to be
returned. Buy now!**

**higher price prevails*

Recent Course Renovations

As you all may have noticed the past few weeks in mid-September, we had a company come out to the course and do a few renovations. McDonalds & Sons is a highly renown golf course construction company across the country, known as one of the best, if not the best, golf course construction company in the country. They have done work at some of the highest end clubs including Congressional Country Club, Pine Valley, Oakmont and Rivera Country Club.

Here at Great River, we cored out several tees and the putting green collar, step cut and rough along the cart path. In the case of 10 black tee, we cored it out and removed about 6-8 inches of poor soil which was causing the tee to burn out in certain areas. When coring it out we found a heavily dense thatch layer which is not ideal for growing grass. Thatch is a layer in the soil of dead organic matter that builds up over the years if you do not do the proper cultural practices such as aerifying. After the removal of that thatch layer and poor soil we added back in a proper construction mix typically used for tees and greens which will allow the proper water absorption and drainage as well as an ideal mix for growing turf.



The putting green edge along the cart path received the same step by step construction that happened on 10 black tee. Once cored out, we came across the same issue that was on 10 tee. There was a very thick and dense layer of thatch in the collar and step cut of the putting green. Under the turf there was an approximately 4–5-inch layer of thatch causing awful water absorption and drainage. This layer also prohibits roots from being able to establish or grow with how dense it becomes over time. Like the black tee on 10 we removed the thatch layer as well as another 2-3 inches of soil and replaced it with the proper construction mix. We replaced all the rough with new tall fescue turf and new topsoil beneath it as this is a high traffic area from everyone walking on to the putting green.



The back Approach roll-out on #3 Green required similar soil coring & modification. While removing the poor soils below causing turf decline, extensive in-house construction & regrading was performed to soften the slope & grade of this tight nook. In addition to replacing the poor soils below with a proper growing medium, regrading this area will improve drainage and mechanical stresses from mowing throughout upcoming seasons. Several minor Tee Box spots caused by ongoing irrigation sprinkler failures were patched & resodded, and over 60 individual irrigation repairs were performed by our contractor retained for the 2022 new irrigation system install.

As always, we would like to thank our membership for the continued support of the Greens & Grounds Department.



Blake Thomas

Assistant Golf Course Superintendent

Event Planner Corner

Greetings!

Happy Autumn! The Events Team at Great River had a very busy September! With 31 weddings in the books, we are in the home stretch with only 18 more weddings remaining for the year! We also were happy to host many other special events and celebrations, including a baby shower for one of our members, a milestone birthday party and a Graduation celebration.

A special congratulations goes out to the following couples who tied the knot: Nina & Steven, Lydia & Sean, Shari & Steven, Nicole & Jeffrey, and Hilary & Joe. In addition, best wishes go out to our friend and SHU Alumna, Karin Douglas who celebrated her 90th milestone birthday, with lots of friends and family in attendance!

We are looking forward to the cooler weather and cocktail hours outside at the Fireplace patio. We are also excited to be hosting our 3rd annual bridal show with Wedding Steps, on Tuesday, October 26th, at 6pm. This is a wonderful opportunity for newly engaged couples to visit our venue and property and to meet potential vendors.



The Events team at Great River would love to help get your next event on your calendar. We are now booking holiday parties & 2023 weddings.

We look forward to seeing you!

Gail Hunt | Social & Corporate Event Sales Manager | ghunt@grgolfclub.com

Chelsea Jones | Assistant Event Planner | cmerritt@grgolfclub.com

Caitlin Wardlow | Assistant Event Planner | cwardlow@grgolfclub.com



Let us make *your dream wedding* a reality!

*Stunning Backdrop
Elegant Ballroom
Only One Wedding at a Time*

