



September 2019

THE RIVER

Greens & Grounds

Hopefully by the time you are reading this, we have settled into some cooler/dryer weather. So far, we have had 43 days over 85° with 19 of those days being 90° or warmer. It has been another hot, humid, and wet summer. Sometimes it doesn't feel it, but we had our hottest month ever recorded (July) and have already reached our yearly average rainfall total. Overall turf conditions have been good with the obvious fairway and tee spots struggling through August. Now that September is here, we will be taking a long hard look at our programs from 2019 and breaking down what worked, what didn't work, and what changes need to be made for a successful 2020. We will also start pushing the damaged turf real

hard to encourage full recovery. Improved seed varieties will continue to be slice-seeded into tees, fairways, and step-cuts as low lying areas continue to suffer during hot, wet periods. Drainage will be a huge focal point heading into fall/winter. With the high thatch buildup in fairways, many drains do not work as intended anymore. Instead of water entering the pipe and flowing to the catch basins, we have watched the water flow over the surface and enter the catch basins from above.

Anywhere this is happening the drains will be dug up, inspected, and 4" down spouts will be added every 10'. Unfortunately, the biggest thing we can continue



Water flowing over surface and not through pipe

Greens & Grounds (cont.)



Thatch being removed from 11 fairway

to do is remove thatch and let our sandy soils do their job. We must keep the verti-cutting going with at least 4 treatments a year using our triple-v and monthly (except for July and August) treatments with our less aggressive Jacobsen mower. Additionally, at least 4 treatments with 5/8" solid tines will be necessary to open up channels for water movement while relieving compaction and one treatment in the fall with hollow tines to aid in thatch removal. Each time these implements are used, large amounts of thatch are removed, compaction is relieved, bentgrass "legs" are cut, and lateral growth is promoted.

The result will be firmer fairways that dry faster after rainstorms and are less susceptible to disease. Excessive thatch is not a hard problem to deal with, but the journey

to where we need to be isn't always the fastest. It takes multiple years of grinding it out to reach our goal with noticeable improvements being made each season. I am confident that the work we do between now and the summer of 2020 will make a big difference in the quality of conditions.



Food & Beverage



Dear Members,

It's unbelievable that the summer season is almost behind us and we're about to enter into our fall season.

With that being said, the Chef and his team are really excited about using the best and freshest ingredients the Autumn season has to offer. The cooler temperatures bring a variety of seasonal goodies to cook with, from crisp apples and juicy pears, to hearty greens, sweet root vegetables and sturdy winter squash. Look for mouth-watering specials along with new offerings as Chef Matt continues to modify his menus along with his Culinary Team.

In the month of September, we will be featuring our 8th Wine Club Dinner of the year. Please forgive us, but due to a scheduling conflict, the Dinner will be held on **Thursday, September 12th at 6:30pm**. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause you. The **good news** is Chef Matt's theme for the evening will be a **Taste of Italy**. Wines will be inspired from Italy, from our Sommelier, Bill Okesson.

Additionally, with the fall foliage beginning to take bloom, we will be entering into another busy banquet season with several prestigious golf outings and numerous weddings.

We're looking forward to taking good care of our Members and many guests!

Sincerely,

Dan Piccoello
F&B Director

Matthew Adkins
Executive Chef



Chef Matthew Adkins Presents
September Wine Club Dinner 2019

Thursday, September 12, 2019 – 6:30 pm

A Taste of Italy

First Course

Crispy Smoked Mozzarella, Olive Oil Arugula, Slow Roasted Heirloom Tomatoes, Purple Basil and Balsamic Syrup

Second

Herb Marinated Wild Boar Chop, Shaved Fennel, Beet and Blueberry Puree

Third

Lobster & Truffle Mushroom Risotto

Desserts

Tiramisu, Candied Fennel, Whipped Black Sambuca Cream and Carmel Drizzle

Food & Beverage (cont.)

Thank you to all of our members and their guests who attended our Annual Lobster Bake dinner on August 23rd! The sound of steel drums and a beautiful sunset over the golf course was the perfect backdrop for our end-of-summer celebration.



Beaumonte victorious in Great River Open

Carl Nero and Tom Beaumonte faced off for this year's Great River Open Championship. The match went back and forth with Nero making the turn at 1up. Beaumonte's nearly perfect back nine helped him take the title with a 2 & 1 victory.



Ben James ranked #1 by Junior Golf Scoreboard

Junior Golf Scoreboard, the nations junior golf ranking system, has Ben James ranked the #1 player in the nation for the class of 2022. He is ranked



15th among all Juniors in the nation. Recently he's defended his titles at the Northern Junior and The New England Juniors. Also, he recently finished 9th in the National PGA Junior Championship finishing -14 for 4 rounds. Over the season he has an average score of almost four under par! Congratulations Ben, we are all proud of you!

Sophia Sarrazin wins the Jay Borck

Our other junior super star recently won the Jay Borck Memorial at Brooklawn. After being three down after 8 holes, the 14-year-old came storming back to win 2 up. Sophia also had strong finishes in two AJGA events and a 6th place finish in the Northern Junior.



Ivan-Pal takes the Junior Crown

Jake Ivan-Pal fired a two under 70 to win the Junior Club Championship by three strokes. Sophia Sarrazin finished runner up with a solid round of 73, while Cam Besaw's 76 was good for third. Congratulations to all players on their fine play!



Student Spotlight: Ben James

If you are wondering what great players do at impact in their golf swing, here's three things they all do:

1. They hold their posture at impact
2. They return the shaft angle to its address position
3. They have a slightly bent right arm at impact

Visualizing great positions and great swings is a very effective way to learn. Try mimicking these positions. I would match Ben's impact position to any of the top players in the world!



Welcome Jason Loomis to the Great River Team!



We are pleased to welcome Jason Loomis to our team as **Head Golf Professional**. His experience and expertise are going to be an enormous asset to the Great River operation. Jason's presence will increase our overall availability to work directly with golfers on their techniques to improve their game.

Upcoming Events

Tom Follo Member/Member Tournament

Saturday, September 14th & Sunday, September 15th - 9:00AM Shotgun both days

Entry Fee: \$90.00

Format: Improvement Tournament Better Ball of Two Players for Two Rounds. On your 2nd round, you score only the holes that you improved on from the first round. Your final score is the best ball score of the two days.

Sign-Up Deadline: September 1st

Prizes: 1st, 2nd, Gross, and Net

Food & Beverage: Breakfast and Lunch in the Member's Grill Room both days

Stember Cup

Friday, September 20th - 3:00PM Shotgun

Entry Fee: \$25.00

Format: 9-hole Pinehurst Alternate Shot. Invite one of your favorite GR staff members as your partner! Sign up in the Pro Shop or on Clubster.

Food & Beverage: Hors d'oeuvres in the Member's Grill

Senior Club Championship

Saturday, September 28th - Tee Times

Entry Fee: \$50.00

Format: 18-hole stroke play with a gross and net division

Senior Division - 55 and over

Super Senior Division - 75 and over (net prize only)

Sign Up Deadline: September 20th

Women's Club Championship

Saturday, September 28th - Tee Times

Entry Fee: \$50.00

Format: 18-hole stroke play with a gross and net division

Sign-Up Deadline: September 20th



Fall Junior Clinic

Every Sunday, September 8th to October 6th

Time: 10:00AM to 11:00AM

Ages: 6 to 13

Cost: \$180 for public, \$150 for Sacred Heart Alumni/
Faculty and Great River Members

Email tom@rgolfclub.com to sign up!

Pioneer Performance Center TPI Golf Strong Program

A completely customized group exercise class developed for the recreational and competitive golfer. Our program begins with a Titleist Performance Institute (TPI) Movement Screen to determine areas that you can target with a resistance training program and a professional swing evaluation. We aim to provide a motivational and educational environment during your four 1-hour sessions. Upon completion of the program, you will have an improved understanding of your musculoskeletal strengths and weaknesses, knowledge about your golfing technique, and with a resistance training routine that you can continue at home to improve your golf game in the off-season. Musculoskeletal strength and movement efficiency are critical for injury prevention and improved performance in golf. This class was designed to target areas that are essential for golf.



Cost: \$300

Includes:

- Titleist Performance Institute (TPI) Movement Screen
- Four (4) group exercise classes customized to the recreational golfer
- Resistance bands
- Professional golf swing analysis using motion analysis software by PGA professional Tom Rosati
- BOD POD assessment (gold standard body composition test)
- Limited to 6 participants

Email Tom Rosati at tom@rgolfclub.com for more information and to sign up

Pro Shop Corner

Dear Member,

We all know Labor Day weekend is a sign that the fall is quickly approaching. As the days get cooler, layers will become more important when playing golf.

The Shop just received beautiful tech layering pieces from FootJoy to help you stay dry and cool through the change of season.



In September we will be receiving two more fall deliveries: one from Under Armour and the newly released Jim Nantz sportswear collection from Vineyard Vines.

As the new merchandise arrives, we will be marking down the Spring and Summer apparel. Styles are added to the sale rack in the back of the shop weekly.

Sincerely,

The Pro Shop Staff

Pro Shop Corner

SEPTEMBER SALES



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The more you buy, the more you save!

25% off 1 item

30% off 2 items

40% off 3 or more items

All Ladies Apparel 40% off

Event Planner Corner

As the Summer is winding down, our social and corporate events are just gearing up! We hosted six weddings, a bridal shower and many meetings and cocktail hour events. Congratulations to Jessica & Joe, Maryn & Will, Brittany (SHU Alumni) & Billy, Julie & Tom, Erin & Tommy, and Stacey & Aaron on their recent weddings. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to host your special day!



As we look ahead to the Fall, we are excited to host more special celebrations, including bridal showers, weddings, corporate meetings, parties and fundraising events!

Additionally, we are now

taking reservations in our Ballroom for Holiday parties, from 20 to 200 people. Please keep us in mind for your company's next event, as prime dates tend to book up quickly.

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

Welcome Chelsea Merritt to the Great River Team!



Chelsea will be assisting with our Social Media, Marketing, and Event Planning. She has over five years of experience in sports marketing and the hospitality/entertainment industry. We feel her experience and capabilities will help us grow our business and we are excited to have her working on our team!



BOOK YOUR

HOLIDAY PARTY

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