

# From the General Manager

Please enjoy this article about golf etiquette authored by Arnold Palmer.

# **10 Rules for Good Golf Etiquette**

### I. Don't be the slowest player

In my casual games at Bay Hill, we get around in under four hours. Evaluate your pace of play honestly and often, and if you're consistently the slowest one in your group, you're a slow player, period. Encourage everyone to move quickly enough so you find yourself right behind the group in front several times, both early and late in the round.

Remember the old staples of getting around in good time: Play "ready golf" (hit when ready, even if you aren't away) until you reach the green, be prepared to play when it's your turn on the tee and green, and never search for a lost ball for more than five minutes.

### II. Keep your temper under control

In the final of the Western Pennsylvania Junior when I was 17, I let my putter fly over the gallery after missing a short putt. I won the match, but when I got in the car with my parents for the ride home, there were no congratulations, just dead silence. Eventually my father said, "If I ever see you throw a club again, you will never play in another golf tournament." That wake-up call stayed with me. I haven't thrown a club since.

Throwing clubs, sulking and barking profanity make everyone uneasy. We all have our moments of frustration, but the trick is to vent in an inoffensive way. For example, I often follow a bad hole by hitting the next tee shot a little harder -- for better or worse.

### III. Respect other people's time

Because time is our most valuable commodity, there are few good reasons for breaking a golf date. Deciding last-minute to clean the garage on Saturday, or getting a call that the auto-repair shop can move up your appointment by a day, just doesn't cut it. Always make your tee times, and show up for your lesson with the pro a little early. Social functions are no exception.

**IV. Repair the ground you play on** I have a penknife that's my pet tool for fixing ball marks, but a tee or one of those two-pronged devices is fine. As for divots, replace them. Rake bunkers like you mean it. Ever notice that the worse the bunker shot, the poorer the job a guy does raking the sand? Make the area nice and smooth -- don't leave deep furrows from the rake. Before you exit the bunker, ask yourself, *Would I be upset if I had to play from that spot?* 

### V. Be a silent partner

During one of my last tour events as a player, I noticed another pro making practice swings in my field of vision as I was getting ready to hit a shot. I stopped, walked over and reminded him (maybe too sternly) that it was my turn to play. The point is, stand still from the time a player sets himself until the ball has left the club.

Even with the advent of spikeless shoes, the etiquette rule of never walking in someone's line of play on the putting green is an absolute. The area around the hole in particular is sacred ground. The first thing to note when you walk onto a green is the location of every ball in your group, then steer clear of their lines to the hole.

Know where to stand and when to keep quiet. Position yourself directly across or at a diagonal from a player setting up. Never stand on the line of play, either beyond the hole or directly behind the ball. When a player is about to hit a shot, think of the fairway as a cathedral, the green a library.

# VI. Make your golf cart 'invisible'

Carts are very much a part of the modern game. Think about it: They're mentioned on the backs of scorecards, discussed in the *Decisions on the Rules of Golf*, bags and other items are designed specifically for them, and they're used at most courses. The sheer pervasiveness of them makes cart etiquette vitally important.

Your goal when driving a cart should be to leave no trace you were there. Because we tend to look where we're going and not where we've been, it's easy to damage the turf and not realize it. Avoid wet areas and spots that are getting beaten up from traffic. Golfers tend to play "follow the leader" and drive in single file out to the fairway before branching off. It's usually better to "scatter" -- everyone take a different route -- so cart traffic is spread out.

### VII. Always look your best

From Bobby Jones and Walter Hagen to Ben Hogan and Sam Snead to Tiger Woods and Phil Mickelson, the best players have been meticulous about their appearance. Their clothing has been sharp, and not one of them has shown up on the first tee with his cap backward, mud caked on his shoes, or his shirttail hanging out. (My shirt often came untucked, but it was my swing that did it. I started with it tucked in!)

Your appearance speaks volumes about you as a person, and the neatly appointed golfer, like a businessman or someone headed to church, gives the impression he thinks the golf course and the people there are special.

# VIII. Turn off the cell phone

Nobody knows less about technology than I do. But I know enough to recognize a cell phone when it rings in my backswing. If I had my way, cell phones would be turned off at all times on the course, but most clubs have given in to the fact that people are going to use them. I don't know all the gadgets and settings on those phones, but do whatever you have to do to keep it quiet. And if you absolutely have to make a call, move away from the other players. And keep the call so brief that they don't even know you made it.

# IX. Lend a hand when you can

It's easy to help out your fellow players, if you just pay attention. One obvious way is looking for lost balls -- better yet, watching errant shots so they don't turn into lost balls. Pick up that extra club left on the fringe or the headcover dropped next to the tee, and return it to its owner after saying, "Nice shot!" And if you see a cart out of position or a provisional ball that needs picking up, don't just walk by.

# X. Learn the little things

There are a hundred bits of etiquette I haven't mentioned, like laying the flagstick down carefully, tamping down spike marks when you're walking off a green, letting faster groups play through, and so on. All of these things are learned by observing, with a sharp eye and a considerate heart. Just know that golf has a way of returning favors, and every piece of etiquette you practice will be repaid tenfold.

# Don't forget to sign up for this month's upcoming events.

August 4<sup>th</sup> - Glow Ball August 9<sup>th</sup> - Ironman (make your tee time) August 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> - VVGC Club Championship



Call the Pro Shop to sign up for any of the events this month 586-2145. Many thanks to those of you who have participated in some of the events this summer.



Have a great August Jordy

# **From the Superintendent**

Thank you for your kind comments on the condition of the golf course throughout the 2017 season. My staff has done an excellent job this summer.

The driving range tee markers are currently positioned at the forward position of the range. Please use caution when you are using your driver. There have been some balls hit over the netting into the maintenance shop area. My staff has had some close calls by the balls hit over the netting. If you hit the ball a long way, try to use the right side of the range. Thanks!

You may have noticed the digging and "ground under repair" that has been appearing throughout the golf course. We've started a few modifications around the course on the irrigation system. We're attempting to alleviate the wet/dry areas that chronically appear every summer. The pockets of gravel, old sand greens, and numerous fairy rings are just a few of the obstacles that create undesirable moisture situations. We'll just chip away at some of those less desirable locations and hopefully create some improvements to those chronic "bad spots".

Greens aerification will be August 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, tee times will begin at 12:00 both days so we can stay ahead of the golfers.

Thank you so much for all the goodies being delivered down to the maintenance building. It's amazing how faces can light up when they see treats on the lunchroom table!!!

I hope everyone is having a great summer.

Gary Colstad



# **From the Professional**

The month of July was a great month for golfing at VVGC. The golf course is in prime shape and should remain that way for the remainder of the season. The constant heat wave that we're experiencing has started to slow down our afternoon play. Early morning and late evening tee times are very popular now so be sure to reserve your starting time in advance. Please call the night before if you plan on golfing before the Pro Shop opens. The starting hole may change because of league play and we want to be sure everyone starts on the correct hole. Thanks for all your patience and support this year.

### August Pro Shop Hours: 7:30 – 7:30pm (except on league nights)

### Club Storage and Carts: 7:30 -- 9:00pm

A couple of events are scheduled in August. The Men's "Iron man" game will be played on Wednesday August 9th. The VVGC Club Championship will be held August 12-13<sup>th</sup>. Please check with the Pro Shop for availability if you plan to golf on any of the above dates.

The Fourth of July "Orange Ball" Scramble was a huge hit as always, this year. Rhett and Molly Nemelka teamed up with Aaron and Abby Maki and fired a net score of 64 to win the "Orange Ball" part of the tournament in the first flight. Joe and Angel Rossman teamed up with Bill and Erica Boltz to win the "Scramble" game in the first flight. Trevor, Pete, & Sheryl Peck teamed up with Cody Armknecht to win the "Orange Ball" in the second flight. Nate Peckinpaugh and Marci Yamasaki teamed up with Ray Yamasaki and Max Magee to win the "Scramble" game in the second flight. Twenty-four teams competed this year and all enjoyed a classic 4<sup>th</sup> of July meal afterwards.

The team of Gail Eaton and (guest) Susan Haskins claimed the gross division title honors in the 9th VVGC Ladies Invitational. Gail and Susan fired a gross score of 139 over the two days consisting of 4 - 9-hole matches. The first flight net division winners were Diane Allen and (guest) Diane Jones. Second flight gross division winners were Angel Rossman and Dorthy Denecke. Second flight net division winners were Sue Koslofsky and (guest) Tracy Paine. Thanks again for all the local sponsors who helped make this event happen. For additional flight and side game results in this tournament or other events please refer to Valley View's web site.

As the season winds down and league play comes to an end we still have to remember to reserve tee times. I expect VVGC to remain busy all the way through till the end of the season. Please check in with the Pro Shop prior to teeing off, be courteous and respect the rights of other members.

Enjoy the rest of summer!!

Scott G. Kremmel - PGA Golf Professional

# **From the Restaurant**

Where has the summer gone, it's hard to believe August is upon us. Thanks to all of you who have enjoyed this summer's Prime Rib Friday Nights.

The Restaurant is open 7 days a week from 11:00 to 8:30 offering our full menu along with Daily Specials. Check the menu board at the top of the restaurant stairs to view our daily specials. Soup & Salad Bar are available Monday thru Friday from 11:00 to 2:00.

We will feature a Pasta & Fried Chicken Buffet on Friday Night august 18<sup>th</sup>, serving from 5:30 to 8:00pm. Please call 585-2921 for reservations. The cost is \$15.00 See You Soon,

Mary Ann & Staff



# Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Tournament

We held our annual tournament on July 18<sup>th</sup> this year. It was unanimously agreed that the "pink ball" portion of the tournament be eliminated, as we did this year, for the future tournaments. We made \$1875.00 for the cause, 20% of which goes to the national foundation towards research and the remainder goes to the local Montana/Idaho chapter to aid women and their families going through a breast cancer diagnosis.

We could not have a successful tournament without the generous donations of either money and/or providing a basket for our raffle. We would like to acknowledge the following people who supported us once again this year: Jim Zimbric, Bev Piette, Teresa Diercks, Diane Allen, Connie Kasting, Christy Egbert, Lynn Corcoran, Karen Bouse, and Nancy Maloney. A special thanks to Scott for donating the hole prize and Ted for hitting the ball over on #7; to Gary and his staff for painting the holes pink and putting the pink flag up; to Jordy for his overall assistance and MaryAnn for the yummy cupcakes.

Each year after the tournament we realize things that we could do the next year to help generate more funds for the cause. This cancer has a great awareness because many may have had a relative or friend who has dealt with it. In the future, as a reminder, even if you cannot participate in the tournament, please consider donating as your funds would be greatly appreciated. The Komen Foundation has set a "Bold Goal" to reduce the current number of breast cancer deaths by 50% in the U.S. by 2026.

Think Pink!

Co-chairs: Sue Koslofsky & Laurie Brinkman



#### Ladies Association News

### Thank you to all of Valley View's staff for a Successful Invitational

The 9th annual Ladies Invitational was a great success. We had guests in attendance from local, out of town and out of state courses. Everyone agreed the course is in beautiful shape and fun was had by all. We heard positive comments from our members and their guests. The Ladies Association would like to recognize all the great support from the Valley View staff for making this a wonderful event for the ladies.

**Jordy**: Thank you for all your time and efforts to coordinate and oversee the entire event. You helped us make several changes to the event this year that brought more participants and fun to the event.

**Pro Shop:** Scott, Jed, Ted and the rest of the staff. We appreciate you working with us to change up our play formats. You provided us a well-organized playing competition that was enjoyable for all. Many thanks to the club storage fellas for the care and handling of our clubs and getting the range setup nicely for us each morning.

**Course Maintenance:** Gary, as usual, you and your staff provided a course in superb condition for us to play and we certainly enjoyed showing off the gorgeous flowers throughout the course.

**Restaurant:** Mary Ann, we appreciate the care and thought you and your staff provided in serving us during the 2-day event. The breakfast items were a great start each morning and the delicious lunches were a perfect finish.

**Office:** Thank you to Bonnie and Stephanie for keeping track of the financials for both the event and fundraisers.

### Fundraising Update

Thank you to all who have generously contributed to our fund-raising efforts. We have raised over \$1,000 so far this year from our raffles and drawings. Thanks to Brittany Bayse and the MSU Bobcat Women's Golf Team for their donation of Bobcat items, for our raffle. The funds the Ladies League raise go towards funding an annual scholarship awarded to an MSU Women's Golf Team member and to support the Wheat Montana Junior Golf tournament lunch at Valley View. A special thank you to Cynthia Redmond and Michelle Vanvelkinburgh who came out early both Saturday and Sunday to sell raffle tickets at the Invitational. Thank you to all who help us support our golf community.

### **Beautification:**

Thanks to Teresa Dierks for the flowers and candy to brighten up the ladies' locker room.

### **Club Championship**

We encourage the women golfers of the club to participate in the Club Championship event August 12-13. Let's increase our participation this year and have some fun playing together! Would you like to join Valley View Bridge Marathon?

Get a partner and call me to get the details. We start in October.

Marty Daiello

585-5333







Valley View would like to welcome our new members:

Mike & Rainey Kellogg

Travis & Teresa Verge

Del & Dena Richter

Chett & Monica Cross

Office Hours Monday-Friday 9:00am-4:00pm