

May 2020



Office 587-9751 ~ Pro 586-2145 ~ Maintenance ~ 586-4688 ~ Restaurant/Bar 585-2921

From the General Manager

May is here and the golf course has been open for 9 days. The golf course was covered with snow on April 17th! Gary and his staff did a great job preparing the golf course for opening day on April 22nd. This will be a season that will be different than any of 90 seasons that Valley View has existed. The Clubhouse and Restaurant will be open for members only initially. The Board of Directors and Club Management have followed the necessary guidelines that have been established by the proper authorities. There have been some members who have been critical of the Covid-19 and Reopening guidelines. These are guidelines that were issued from the Governor and the County Public Health Department, not the Board of Directors or Club Management. Valley View will not compromise the safety of our staff or members as we deal with the Reopening Guidelines. The Covid-19 Pandemic has caused major changes in all of our lives. Bozeman businesses were shut down on Monday March 16th at 9:00pm. Recently the Governor announced a Three Phase Reopening Bozeman Businesses guidelines plan that was also approved by the Public County Health Department. The Phase One reopening implementation began on the following dates April 26th, (churches reopened) April 27th, (businesses reopened) and on May 4th (restaurants, bars and other businesses can reopen). Social Distancing is very prevalent in the Phase One Reopening Opening guidelines. There are some inconsistencies with the Phase One Reopening Guidelines that are very confusing. Restaurants are supposed to practice social distancing but there can be 6 people sitting at one table. Due to the Covid 19 Pandemic situation smoking will not be allowed on the restaurant patio. There will be a designated smoking area on the lower level of the patio. It will be located on the southwest corner of the patio above the flowers behind the 9th green. The Clubhouse restaurant will open with limited seating Monday May 4, 2020 all the restaurant reopening information is in the restaurant article in this newsletter. As soon as we receive any information about the implementation of Phase Two, we will let you know.

2020 ANNUAL GUEST PASS PROGRAM

This season when you have a guest, all you have to do is notify the pro shop that you have a guest. Over the season's members have lost passes or forgot to bring passes when they are hosting guest. So for your convenience passes will not be issued, when you bring a guest you will see a credit for your guest on your monthly statement. Please be sure to sign the guest charge slip in the pro shop. The business office will always be able to tell you how many guest passes you have used. Your

membership cards may be picked up in the pro shop, we will let you know when they arrive. Guests will be permitted as soon as Phase Two Guidelines are implemented.

Since we have been open members have experienced frustration with the online tee time. The problem has been due to the number of members trying to schedule tee times around the same time. The system has been overloaded and it freezes up. Our software developers are aware of the problem and are working hard to fix it. The overload problems occur from 12:00am to 3:00am, we have been observing the scheduling action every night. We know who most of you play with so when the system overload cools down we have been able to fix most of your tee times before you wake up. There have been times double- booked and for those of you in that situation we have worked it out for you to play close to your double-booked time. The good news is that the development of a new user friendly system should be ready to be launched before June 1st. Members also need to understand that due to the Covid-19 situation there a many more members that are golfing this time of year than usual.

May 1st the restaurant food minimum (\$25.00 per month if you selected this option or pay \$150.00 to be used anytime during the 6-month period) will start and continue through October 31, 2020. To clear up any confusion, all purchases involving food or nonalcoholic beverages will be applied to the food minimum including purchases at the snack shack. Alcohol & tips are not included. All members must charge (cash purchases do not apply) these items in order to receive credit for the monthly food minimum. Make sure you **print your name**, include your membership number & sign your charge slip so we can credit your account.

Have a great May,

Jordy



From the Superintendent

Welcome back. This isn't quite the start to the golf season that we all expected. The weather is about the only "norm" that we have been experiencing lately. As usual, the snow took FOREVER to disappear from Valley View. We received some 40-degree temperatures the early part of April, but the cold nighttime temperatures reduced our prime snow-melting conditions to only a couple hours during the late afternoon. We were able to achieve some minor course cleanup throughout the early days of April, but the course was so saturated that many of those areas that were not covered with snow were inaccessible due to the standing water. Some of you may have been out walking the course as the snow began to disappear last month. The COVID-19 restrictions seemed to produce increased foot traffic around the golf course throughout the month of April. Those that were out experiencing some fresh air at Valley View must have noticed that Valley View Golf Club looks like a lumber yard coming out of the winter months. Besides the normal tree debris, deer debris, and goose debris that needs to be cleaned up...we were hammered by the voles this winter. Those little creatures can do so much damage to the turf. I've come to the fact that we will always have vole damage in the longer grass, such as areas around the tee boxes and greens. But the frustration levels begin to rise when they tunnel out into the fairways...and even chewing up a couple greens! I feel helpless when the snow begins to disappear, and the vole damage rears its ugly head.

The first couple of weeks in April allowed the maintenance crew to make a small dent in cleaning up the mess that "winter" had produced. Many of the bunkers still contained snow and there were numerous snow drifts remaining on the golf course, but we continued with cleanup the best we could. The "Tax Day" snowstorm was a major setback for the maintenance staff. At that point administration was trying to decide as to when we could open Valley View for the 2020 golf season. Without knowing how long the snow would remain on the golf course, and with the added moisture to the already saturated golf course, we set a target date of May 1st to open the golf course to membership play. Luckily Mother Nature provided us all with a dry, warmer weather pattern that allowed us to open earlier than expected. So here we are, golf course open but dealing with some restrictions. We will continue our lengthy cleanup process as we transition into our normal maintenance routine. I would be thrilled if the golf course would come out of winter with "summer-like" conditions...but that's not the case. The few hiccups that we are enduring now are only temporary. As they say..." We are all in this together". We will survive!!! Enjoy the summer!

Take care...stay healthy.

I have a favor to ask of everyone. PLEASE do not bother the goose nests. We have located most(?) of these nests and are in the process of monitoring the situation. If you destroy the eggs, there is a possibility that they will begin a nest somewhere else on the course. We might not be able to locate the new nest. This increases the chance of dealing with more baby geese this spring, which will return next year...and the year after...and the year after!!! What a vicious cycle. There is the chance that animals are destroying the nests. If so, we have no control over that act of nature. If humans are destroying the eggs...please stop. Our program that we implemented has no positive effects if the eggs are destroyed. Thank you.

Gary Colstad

From the Professional

All it takes is a little sunshine and warm weather to bring out all the golfers! The good news is that the golf course is open and we are fortunate to be able to golf. The bad news is that we have a few restrictions that may disrupt our normal operations. At present time we are following the Governors Phase 1 guidelines that allows golf courses to continue to be open. Social distancing is the key for us to remain open. Please limit the time spent at VVGC and avoid group gatherings. If any of the staff at VVGC contracts the virus we are at risk of being shut down. The Pro Shop is open but we need to limit the traffic to no more than 4 people inside at a time. If you see that the Pro Shop is busy please wait outside until the people have cleared out. If you do not feel comfortable entering the building you can call us for any assistance or go to the window on the south side of the Pro Shop by the #10 tee. Member charge tickets are the preferred method of payment as we are trying to limit the number of cash or credit card transactions. Golf carts are available but limited to 1 person per cart unless from the same household. Carts are available for pickup around the center island and keys are left inside. Drop the carts off when through by the red sign and please: **THROW OUT YOUR OWN TRASH** as the staff doesn't feel comfortable handling your empty bottles, cans, and Kleenex and cigarette butts. Carts are being disinfected between each use. Hand sanitizer is available for your use inside the Pro Shop. Club storage will begin as Phase 2 restrictions go into effect. The driving range and practice areas are open as long as we remain 6 feet apart and avoid group gatherings. With our proximity to Kagy Blvd. we are in plain view to health department and law enforcement officials patrolling for violations. Let's be respectful to all members and remember that we are fortunate to be open.

May is always the most difficult month to get everyone on the golf course. The limited number of nice days coupled with the excitement of the golf course opening puts a real demand for tee times. The increased spacing between tee times and number of people not working has added to the situation. The demand will subside after Memorial Day as people begin to spread out to other activities. Please think ahead and reserve tee times in advance. If you must cancel a tee time, please take your name off the automated tee time system or give us a call and let us know.

Please remember that frost is always a concern during the spring. The first official starting time is 9:00am. This time will change as the days get longer and the threat of frost subsides. If you are an early morning golfer - make sure the course closed signs are not posted prior to teeing off. Pro Shop hours of operation are listed below. Hours will be expanded as conditions change.

Pro Shop: 8:30am – 6:00pm.

Driving Range: 8:30am – 6:30pm

Golf Carts: 8:30am – 8:00pm

Once again I would like to welcome all the new members to Valley View Golf Club. Please stop in the Pro Shop and introduce yourself. It's always nice to be able to put a face to a name. It is highly recommended that everyone has a Valley View bag tag. Clubs are often left outside the Pro Shop and we would like to know who they belong to before locking up at night. Bag tags are available for you at the Pro Shop.

Custom club fitting is the only way to go when purchasing new irons. Now that hybrids are replacing many irons, a typical iron set is a thing of the past. There are many advantages to custom fitting that one cannot get when purchasing a stock set off the rack. Custom fitting allows the individual to get the right match of club head, shaft, shaft flex, grip, grip size, lie angle, and set configuration that best suits their game. The main keys to club fitting are finding the right combination that is fit for your swing that delivers the proper ratio of ball speed, launch angle, spin rate and direction. When these variables are correctly matched the ball flight will be correct and distance will be maximized. Club fitting and golf instruction goes hand in hand. To properly fit a person we must position them with the right grip, stance, and posture while being sure that their swing is fundamentally correct. Club fitting must be done on the driving range. Hitting into net or just taking static measurements will not fit a person properly. Being able to see the flight of the ball is the ultimate indicator. Titleist, Callaway, and Ping clubs will be available to hit and get custom fitted. The only disadvantage to custom fitted clubs is that they have to be ordered. Fitting accounts like Valley View will have priority shipping with delivery times running from 6-12 days on average. If you're interested in obtaining a custom set give us a call so we can make an appointment. A fitting fee will be charged but this fee will be deducted from the purchase price of any iron set or metal woods. Please allow 30 minutes for the fitting.

Professional advice is free so please check with us before purchasing any golf equipment. In addition to the manufactures warranty we always offer a **30 day "NO QUESTION ASKED NO HASSLE RETURN POLICY ON STOCKED ITEMS"**. **Custom ordered clubs cannot be returned...sorry!** If for any reason you are not satisfied, simply bring the merchandise back and we will be glad to exchange or refund your purchase. Remember - merchandise purchases over \$100 from you or your guests are eligible for a 5% credit. The credit will be issued to your account in the Pro Shop and will be available for you to use on your next purchase.

League Play and Golf Events: The VVGC tournament schedule is on hold for now. Any league / event requiring a shotgun start is not allowed under the Phase 1 restrictions. League play or events requiring tee times could be held. We are on a "Wait and See" approach for the next couple of weeks before publishing an events calendar.

Golf Lessons: Private golf lessons will be available upon request from any of the PGA Golf Professionals. Group golf lessons are on hold until Phase 2 restrictions go into effect

Ladies Day and Men's Day: The official ladies day restrictions start on Tuesday May 26th. Official men's day restrictions begin on Wednesday May 27th.

Just a reminder to all members: Please check in at the Pro Shop prior to teeing off. Let us know how many players you have and how many holes you intend to play. This helps us control the tee boxes and avoid any unnecessary conflicts. Please reserve golf carts, repair ball marks, replace divots, avoid slow play and have a great time.

Think Spring!!Scott G. Kremmel - PGA Professional

From the Restaurant

Monday, May 4th

We will offer food and beverage service. There will be limited seating inside the restaurant due to the social distancing guidelines. In house dining will be charged to your membership account with an 18% gratuity added to your bill. During Phase One the restaurant staff will not handle cash or credit cards. Seating is limited to 6 people per table. Please be considerate of the amount of time you are in the restaurant; we would like to accommodate the members who may be waiting for a table. To-go orders are available by calling the restaurant (585-2921); all orders will be charged to your membership account. There will be an 18% gratuity added to all to go orders as well, and your receipt will be taped to you order. You may pick up your to-go order on the table outside patio doors, your name and receipt will be taped on your order. Initially we will offer a limited menu. For the safety of our staff and customers, we will be using as many disposable products as possible during Phase One Reopening.

The restaurant hours are 11:00am – 7:00pm daily.

The bar will close at 8:00pm, last call is at 7:45pm.

Listed below are the Phase One guidelines for reopening restaurants:

- Capacity must be limited to 50% of normal operating capacity to allow for adequate group spacing.
- Tables must be limited to six people per table.
- Establishments must provide for 6 feet of physical distancing between groups and or tables by:
 - Increasing table spacing, removing tables, or marking tables as closed
 - Providing for a physical barrier between tables
 - Back-to-back booth seating provides adequate separation.
- In-house dining for quick service restaurants should remain closed, if all guidelines can't be met, including the cleaning of every table between customers.
- **Sitting or standing at bars or counters is not allowed.**
- In bars, drinks and food must be served to customers at a table.
- Self-service buffets must be closed.
- Drink refills are not allowed.
- Self-service cups, straws and lids should be behind a counter and handed to customers
- Self-service condiments should be eliminated.

We look forward to seeing you this month! In Mary Ann's Covid-19 absence, she will be in Monday!

As always,
The Restaurant Staff





Valley View welcomes the following new members:

Thomas & Kathryn Kwarciak

Richard Deming & Julie Bennett

Kris & Jessica Merkel

Josh McGough

Tony & Erica Renslow

Office Hours Monday-Friday 9:00am-2:00pm