



VALLEY
VIEW



September 2024



FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER
STEVE JOHNSON

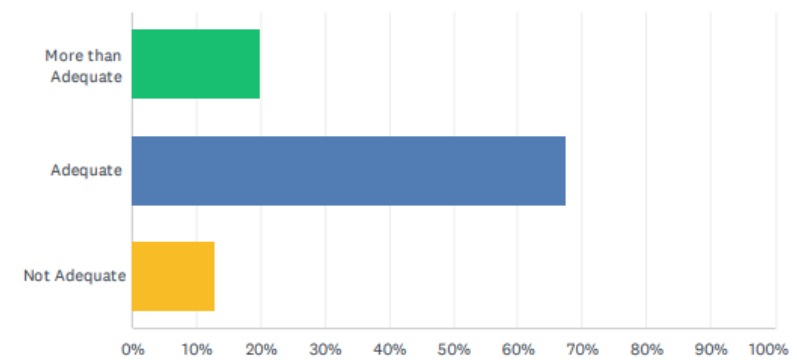
Thank you to the members that took the time to complete the August “Question of the month”. The average time to respond was less than a minute. We received 365 responses that will help guide the Board as they make decisions about improving your club. The results are to the right. The link to the September question can be found later in this newsletter.

The timing of the annual meeting was changed from the month of February to November at the last club election. This year’s annual meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 14, 2024. During the next few months, the Board will be reviewing the proposed 2025 budget and any potential ramifications on dues. In addition, there will be two 3-year term Board of Director positions available. Those positions are currently held by Len Roth and Lindsey Hurlburt. VVGC Bylaws state any stockholder may nominate a director, by delivering such nomination in writing to the Board of Directors or the General Manager at least 30 days prior to the annual meeting. Therefore, the deadline for nominations will be October 15, 2024.

We have many great days of golf left this fall, let’s get out and play.

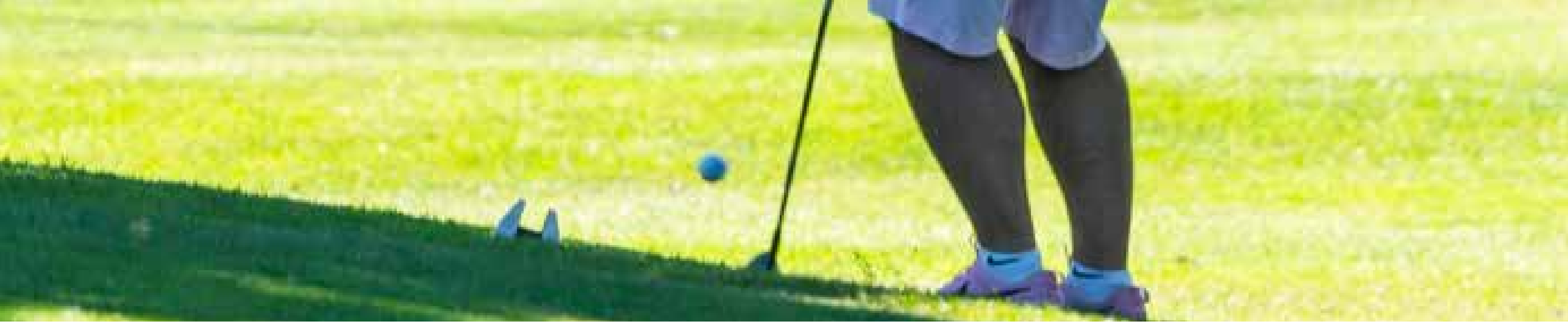
Q1 Are the practice areas/facilities (i.e. Range, putting/chipping greens, bunkers) adequate?

Answered: 365 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
More than Adequate	19.73% 72
Adequate	67.40% 246
Not Adequate	12.88% 47
TOTAL	365





FROM THE DIRECTOR OF GOLF **TED BABCOCK** PGA

Go Cats! Just wanted to start by thanking Gary and his staff for all their hard work during the green aerification process. We appreciate the best greens in the Valley because they receive maintenance they need this time of the season. Mother Nature threw a few curveballs at us with the overnight rain that didn't help. Thanks to all the members for their patience and understanding.

Our August Tournament Calendar hosted the MTState Senior over three days, VVGC Club Championship, Red, White, and Blue Scramble, 1st Annual

Wine Mixer, along with the conclusion of Ladies League. Thanks to all members that participated in these events. It was a banner weekend for the Haas Family, Chris Haas won his 10th Club Championship, Tim Haas won the overall Senior Division, and Madison McCarthy won her third straight Women's Club Championship. Only three women signed up for the event, along with Madison, Nicole Miles and Gail Eaton played. Acknowledgements to these ladies. The golf operation will continue to find the solution to increase this number.

A special thanks to all the ladies that played in the Tuesday evening shotgun. We had 20 four person teams this season. Four years ago, we could not be able to achieve 12 total ladies. In my opinion, the two catalysts for the drastic improvement in participation are not requiring handicaps and allowing ladies to play with whom they would like.

As many of you are not aware of, the 1-Person Scramble has been moved to Sunday, September 22nd. This event will start with a 10:00 shotgun start. You are all welcome to sign up through the Golf Genius link we sent you via

email. You can sign up as a single or make your own foursome. For those of you who are new to the 1-Person Scramble format the rules are as follows. You always have the option to play a second shot throughout the entire round. The caveat being if you play a second shot you must play that ball. It can be a game of greed for many. There is still a significant amount of merchandise credit to be used. Many members have taken the opportunity to spend their merchandise credit over the past week. What we do ask is if you are planning to special order items to use your merchandise credit please to so as soon as

possible. In doing this, it will significantly increase the chances of the item arriving while the golf course is still open. Thank you all for your understanding. Thank you again for your ongoing support of the golf operation. We look forward to the final two-month season.

It is my honor to be your PGA Director of Golf





FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT **GARY COLSTAD**

I am so very thankful that greens aerification week is completed. You know...that week when everyone dislikes the golf course superintendent. Hey...I do not even like myself. And for sure my staff would like to throw me in the pond...with an anchor! The aerification process is such a pain! We had to deal with rain, equipment breakdowns, and not enough hours in the day. I was very thankful that we did have enough sand to complete the top- dressing portion of this miserable task.

We resorted to hauling sand from the Knife River plant in Billings. Hopefully, the Belgrade plant can pull through for us this fall and bring us sand when we put the greens to bed for the winter. Weather permitting, we will attempt to aerify some fairways when the mowing slows down. That is another “fun” task to look forward to in the fall.

I need some help from all the members at Valley View Golf Club. People seem to be adhering to the rules throughout the summer. I was very thankful that members practiced from the mats on Mondays and Thursdays. Lately...this has not been the case, and I do not understand why??? NOT ONE SINGLE MEMBER is entitled to hit irons from the grass on Mondays and Thursdays. By this time of year our driving range tee gets to be in poor condition. Our limited space cannot manage all the range balls that are pounded all summer. This is why we have the mats to hit from on Mondays and Thursdays. If you see anyone hitting irons on the grass these two days (most often in the evenings), please ask them to step back on the mats.

I hope everyone had an incredible summer here at Valley View. Enjoy the remainder of the golf season and pray for snow! Oh wait...I did not mean to type that. My fingers just could not help themselves.

See you out on the course and...GO CATS!



FROM THE F&B MANAGER
KEN HODGSON

September is here already? It must be time for Fall and Football!

There is plenty of news and notes from the restaurant for September. MSU is back in session (as if you couldn't tell from the traffic on Kagy). This means that we are juggling many full schedules and doing the best that we can to keep the restaurant and snack shack operating normally despite the staffing challenges. We do not plan on changing restaurant hours; but the snack shack might start closing an hour earlier as the days get shorter.

We are also inevitably approaching cooler weather and will be featuring our famous New England Clam Chowder on Fridays. Daily soups will follow as the weather changes, and we get through all of our upcoming events, and we are allowed time to make more homemade soups.

Also, it is time to remind some of you to use up your restaurant food credit. Don't wait until October to do so. Our staff gets slimmer and slimmer as we approach the end of the golf season, and it is tough on us when we get inexplicably busy during the last two weeks of October, and we are not adequately staffed for it. So please try to get in here and see us soon, while the weather is still wonderful, and we are still staffed accordingly.

Lastly, it seems very early to think about it; but it is time to start booking your Holiday parties with us. The December calendar is calling out! Some of you have already booked but there are still plenty of dates available. Email the restaurant at vgckitchen@gmail.com to inquire about available dates or menus.

Thank you all for your continued support! Come check out our daily specials,



**Restaurant, Bar, and Snack Shack hours
and notes can be found on the club
calendar!**





CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW MEMBERS

Brown McKai
Max Yzaguirre

OUTGOING MEMBERS

Jim Lytle
Sal Lalani

WELCOME NEW DINING AFFILIATES

Rob Nash
Shon Ramey
Daniel Konen

HOLE-IN-ONE CELEBRATIONS

Jeff Blessum - Hole #7

If you get a Hole-In-One report it to the Pro Shop along with your witness. Members receive a \$200 credit on your bill (usually used up by your bar tab). Also, don't be shy about taking a picture for the newsletter.

VVGC Club Calendar

Our club calendar can now be found online! Click [here](#) to view.

VVGC Club Newsletter

We appreciate the members who are participating in improving our newsletter. Please send us ideas, comments, funny photos, travel reviews, or topics for our newsletter!

“I play too much golf”

SAID NO ONE EVER



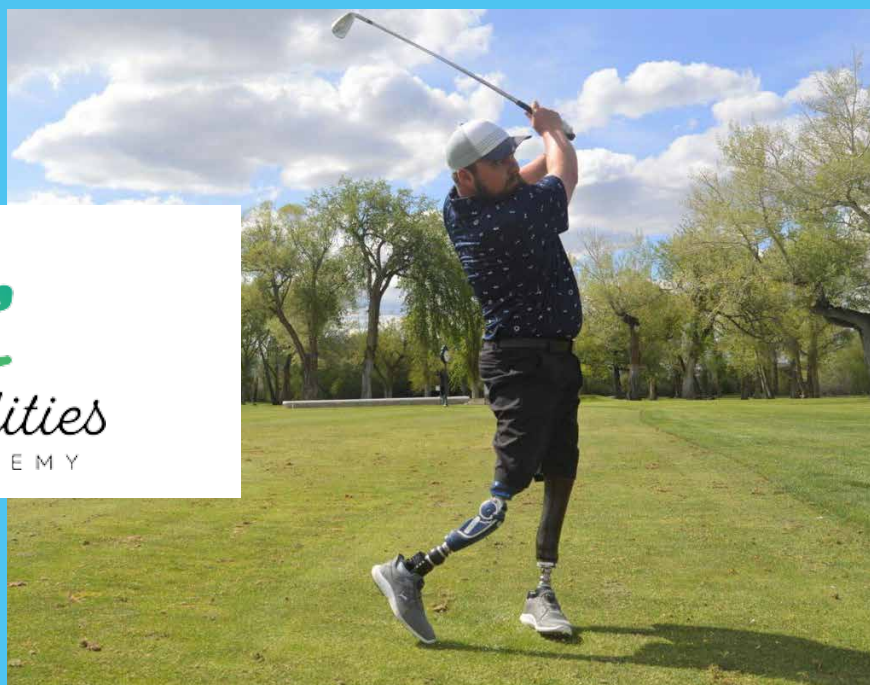
ALL ABILITIES GOLF ACADEMY

While not affiliated with VVGC, Green Meadow Country Club (Helena) Director of Instruction Ryan Cutter, PGA, has created an opportunity for regional golfers with disabilities through his new All Abilities Golf Academy..

This free program is designed to grow the game for people with disabilities and military veterans who are PGA HOPE (Helping our Patriots Everywhere) participants.

Ryan is an ADM-certified PGA Coach. He won the 2021 Western Montana PGA Chapter Assistant Golf Professional of the Year Award and Youth Player Development Award, in addition to recognition from the Pacific Northwest PGA Section as the 2021 Deacon Palmer Award recipient. He competed in the inaugural U.S. Adaptive Open in 2022 and 2024.

If you know anyone who may benefit from this program, or to get involved, visit Ryan's [website](#).



WE WANT YOUR FEEDBACK



Please complete this
month's single
question survey!

Get Started!



VVGC MEMBER TRAVEL

GOLF ON THE ROAD

Course Name | Location: Black Desert- northwest of St. George, UT

Getting There: Fly into SGU or LAS. We stayed in Mesquite, NV (because we could!) and drove up...about 45 mins. Took the scenic back way on return to Mesquite, which was nice, and very remote!

Staying There: Didn't stay in St. George, but I hear it's nice!!

Review of Clubhouse and Amenities: This is where we rocked it...Black Desert is being built out as a full resort, but we got in early and were able to play at "Public" guests...I'm told you now need to stay on property in order to play. As such, the clubhouse was under construction, and they were operating out of a double-wide. Surprised us a bit, but really nice, friendly staff. Clubhouse had all the gear and apparel you'd find elsewhere. Our round included driving range and lunch. Lunch was and authentic taco truck serving the local construction workers. Get the hot sauce!

Review of Course: Top 10 I've played (been to Pebble, Bandon, Pinehurst)

Pros: Low crowds, course in great shape, unique experience playing through the old lava fields and tubes.

Cons: It's not closer to home!

Go Again: Absolutely!

Advice to Others: Enjoy the trips you're able to take with friends and family...we're all getting older!



SHARE YOUR GOLF TRAVEL ADVENTURE!

Tell fellow VVGC members about your latest golf adventure! Send us a few photos and answer these questions in an email and we'll feature your story in an upcoming newsletter.





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