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Growing Our Membership

The Membership Committee continues to work behind the scenes trying to get more exposure for the golf club in hope that it will lead to membership requests.

The Lopez Island Golf website has also exchanged links with several other Lopez websites. You'll find us on Lopez Rocks, IMC, Islander Lopez Resort, Lopez Village Properties, Windermere Realty, Lopez Farm Cottages, Edenwild Inn, and of course the Chamber of Commerce. Check out our own evolving website at LopezIslandGolf.com. If you have great pictures of the course, we'd love to feature them on the site.

August marked the start of a new Evening Business League, with the aim of drawing more Lopez golfers in a fun competition format. It was a success, described elsewhere in this issue.

Lastly, the club recently provided a number of local realtors with 2 for 1 guest passes to increase our exposure to their prospective purchasers.

The committee still hopes to get a spot on a major flying magazine. It so far has proved too expensive, but they haven't given up yet. Our proximity to the airport is a major plus for those flying golfers!

Tournament Results: August Ace

Twanette Porter

Mike Porter

Ladies's Lott

Twanette Porter over Marcia Sullivan in match play.

Men's Pilon

Mike Porter took the title from Gary Blair after 22 holes of match play.

Club Championship



Men: It was a very close race, with the men constantly jockeying for position. However, Don Poole ultimately showed the steadiest nerves and won the top honors of Low Gross (picture at left) with a total score of 232. Jimmy Gouge took the runner-up award with 233, followed by a three-way tie for third at 237 among Marc Zener, Esa Turunen, and Gary Blair

Men's Low Net: Marc Zener and Mike Porter (pictured below) tied at 195. John Sangster was a close third at 198.

Women: Bev Smith (above) did it again! Her low gross score was 252. Sue Crockett came in second at 266. (Sue is Bev's sister-in-law... so who did you root for, Jim?) Third was our very own President, Diane Robertson, at 271.

Women's Low Net: Sue Crockett, shown below aced out the rest of the ladies with a score of 203. Mary Brown and Bev Smith tied for the 2nd spot with 207.

Congratulations to all the winners... you put on a great show!



Twilight August 15th

The Twilight Golf event on August 15th was no-hosted by Bob Gerfy, Joyce Kruthof, and Rita O'Boyle. Participants created their own teams. Bob reconfigured the course so that all holes were par 3s. Men had exceptional challenges on several holes where the tees were placed on adjacent fairways to encourage the hotshots to fly their drives over tall trees. The winning team was the Red Hot Mamas: Pat Goodfellow, Gretchen Gruenke, Beth Hughes, and Mary Brown. Coming in a close second were Russ Johnson, Duane Bordvick, Jimmy Billesbach, and Brian Lynch. KP on #6 required finesse to get over the sand trap. Winners were Nancy Lynch and Mike Porter.

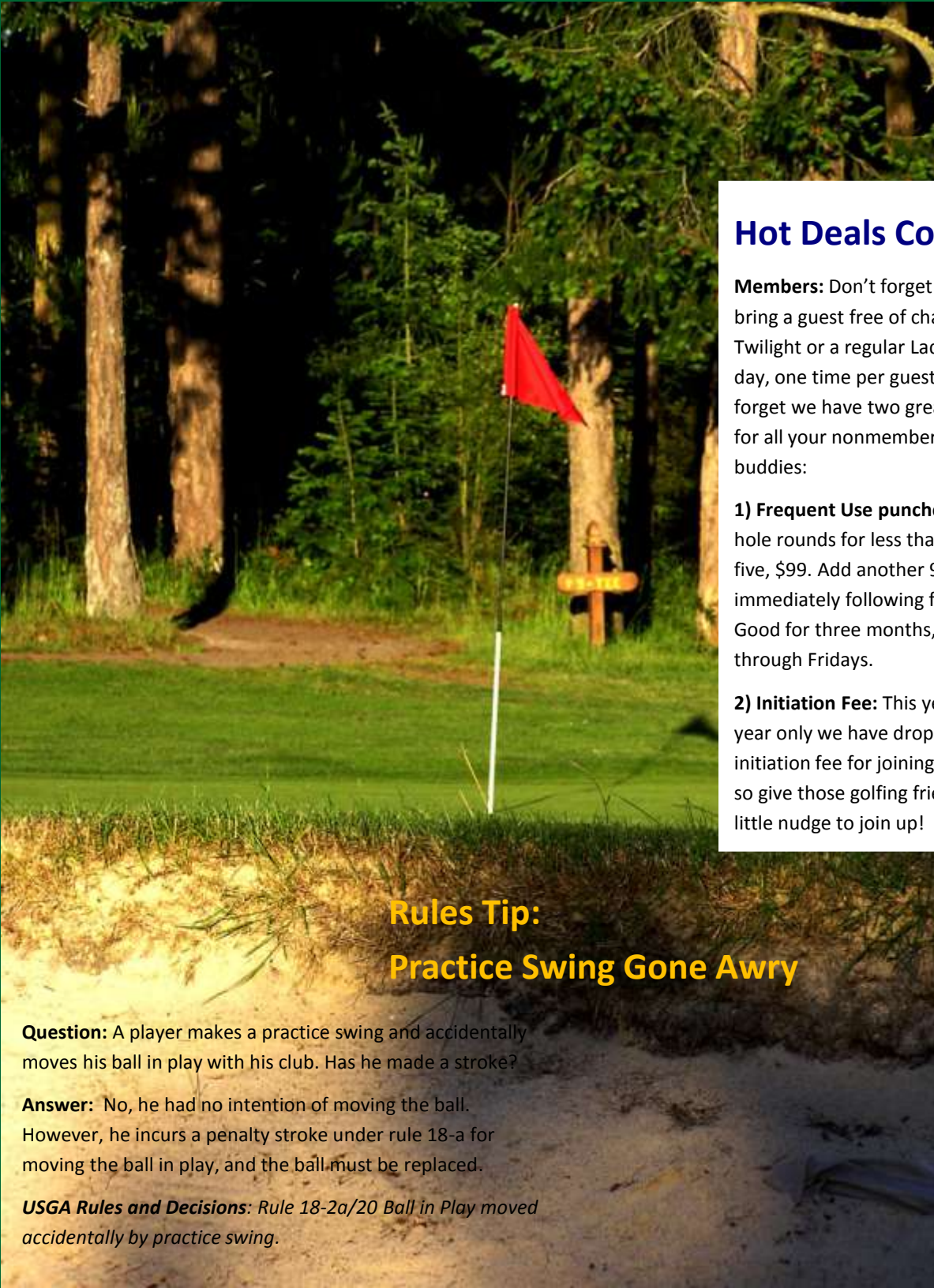
This was a "bring your own" picnic-style event. Special prizes, designed exclusively by Rita O'Boyle and to be recycled next year, were awarded to the winners.

Signs of the Times



The Membership Committee has gotten the county to approve three new road signs pointing to the Golf Club. They went up this month. Check them out at the corner of Ferry Rd. and Center Rd.; Fisherman Bay Rd. and Hummel Lake Rd.; and at the Fisherman Bay Rd. /Dill Rd. triangle.

The three signs came at a steep price of \$600... but at no cost to the club itself. The Lopez Women's Golf Association contributed half the cost, while the rest was privately donated. Thanks to the Women for supporting the Golf Course, and to all who helped make this possible.



Rules Tip: Practice Swing Gone Awry

Question: A player makes a practice swing and accidentally moves his ball in play with his club. Has he made a stroke?

Answer: No, he had no intention of moving the ball. However, he incurs a penalty stroke under rule 18-a for moving the ball in play, and the ball must be replaced.

USGA Rules and Decisions: Rule 18-2a/20 Ball in Play moved accidentally by practice swing.

Hot Deals Continue!

Members: Don't forget that you may bring a guest free of charge to a Twilight or a regular Ladies/Men's day, one time per guest. Also, don't forget we have two great deals going for all your nonmember golfing buddies:

1) Frequent Use punchcards: Six 9-hole rounds for less than the price of five, \$99. Add another 9 holes immediately following for \$5 more. Good for three months, Mondays through Fridays.

2) Initiation Fee: This year and this year only we have dropped the \$300 initiation fee for joining the golf club... so give those golfing friends of yours a little nudge to join up!

Darren's Tip From the Pro

Short Game Tip

The chip and run should be the workhorse of your short game. It is the most reliable shot around the green when you can't putt.

I would estimate that at least 95% of my short game shots (from within 20 yards of the edge of the green) are played with a chip and run technique, and the other 5% is made up of putts from off the green, pitches, and bunker shots.

Getting the ball on the ground and rolling as soon as possible greatly increases the chances of the ball's behavior being predictable. That is not to say that a chip and run is *always* very low to the ground, just as low as possible. A chip and run style shot can be played with the most lofted wedge in your bag, in which case some people might refer to the shot as a "pitch and run."

In many cases where the average golfer tries to pitch the ball up in the air, the "risk vs. reward" and the uncontrollable nature of a pitch (especially from a marginal lie) make it a poor choice.

Short Game General Rules:

- ✓ Putt whenever feasible (i.e., if the ball will roll rather than bounce)
- ✓ Chip and run when you can't putt
- ✓ Pitch only when you have no choice

Darren J. Black, PGA

PGA Head Golf Professional
San Juan Golf and Country Club

Course Courtesy

Please do not hit on holes #2 and #3 when planes are on the runway or taxiway, approaching, or departing from our adjoining Lopez Island Airport.



Business League Results

The first business league event was a huge success! Everyone loved it, and we saw some new faces, folks unable to attend midday events. However, all agreed that darkness is starting to encroach too quickly for a 5:30 PM start. So look for it to resume earlier next year. Thanks to Margie and Vaughan for organizing this event.

There were 27 golfers present. Play was a nine-hole best-ball scramble with no step-aside. Lopez Sand and Gravel came in first (picture below), with a score of 30. Their team consisted of M.R. and Jason Buffum, Larry and Lori Prewitt, and Ryan Kirkham. Hey, wait a second – that’s a fivesome! Guess this truly is an “anything goes” fun kind of league! Second place was a tie between Lopez Liquor Store (Marc and Margie Zener and Jim and Lynne Addington) and Sunset Team B (Vaughan Williams, Jimmy Gouge, John Seibold, and Carla Gerring); both teams shot a 33.

KP’s went to:

- Hole 1: June Arnold and Larry Prewitt
- Hole 4: Lori Prewitt and Joel Arnold
- Hole 8: Margie Zener and Mark Dawson



Final Twilight Results

The last Twilight Golf event of the season was held Friday, August 27th, with Sue Crockett, Jim Pinkham, and Bev Smith hosting. It was a great turnout for golf and the fabulous lasagna dinner catered by the Bay Café.



For the game, each team member was assigned a playing-card suit – club, diamond, heart, or spade. Beside each green was a playing card. The suit of that card determined which player’s score was used for that hole. The team score was the total of those nine scores.

The first-place team (at right) consisted of Jerry McKelvey, Nancy Lynch, Micki Straughan, and Jim Budlong. There was a three-way tie for second place. The winners of the KP on #17 were Nancy Lynch and Dick Reiswig, shown below.



Rita organized a raffle, and Beth's fabulous sunflower arrangement was auctioned off for a combined donation of almost \$150 to the club's equipment fund.



Upcoming Events

September Ace Tournament (final one of the year):

Men's: September 2nd. **Ladies:** Sept 7th.

September 7th: Ladies' Day Luncheon and Meeting):

Near the end of each season the Ladies treat themselves to a catered luncheon. Our very own Ed Gutkowski will be catering the event this year; how lucky can we get! Part of the funding comes via our "three-putt can". Yes, each of us put a dime into our can for every hole that we three-putted (or worse) during the season. Some of us have had to take out a loan to feed the can....

A short business meeting with election of new officers will follow, along with various awards. There is a sign-up sheet in the clubhouse.

September 12th: Awards Banquet/King and Queen Tournament:

This is it! The coup d 'grace! The grande finale!

The culmination of all our efforts end here; don't miss it! Not only will a new King and Queen be crowned, but all the season's highly sought awards will be presented. Plus we will honor all those hole-in-ones. All those Ace pairs will compete for the crowning. To recap, here are the pairings:

April's Winners: Joe Reynolds and Dodie Schiessl.

May: Bill Gregory and Lynn Hall.

June: Rita O'Boyle and Dennis Mattson.

July: Kendal Quaid and Beth Hughes.

August: Mike and Twanette Porter.

September: To be determined.

The Awards Ceremony and Hole-in-One Party will begin at 5 PM. Our Board of Trustees are planning and preparing an elegant dinner focusing on the bounty of the September harvest. As always, there will be a sign-up sheet with specifics in the clubhouse. It is a fun event even if you're not receiving any awards. Please come and join us.

September 18th: LVM Junior Golf Tournament:

This event helps our junior golfers. Each year the Lopez Village Market sponsors a tournament, and all the proceeds go to help our Lopez High School Golf team along with scholarships to the graduating seniors. It starts at noon. Please sign up and help our junior golfers. They are our future!

September 19th: The Horse Race:

This is the final club event of the season. If you've never taken part in this event, you need to try it out. Grab your partner and dosey doe!

This tourney has to be the most unorthodox golfing event of all. Just as all the horses line up at the gate for the bell, so do the golfers! However many teams, that's how many golf balls are in play at once on the first three holes. Eliminations don't start until Hole 4. Last year's fourth-place team of Mattson/Hughes are the ringmasters this year. Be ready for the gates to open at noon.

September 29th: Workday (9 AM – Noon):

We're winding down on the workdays as fall rolls in. This is a good time to get your volunteer hours in. 9-12.

Club Needs

Costco: Needed – members with Costco cards willing to pick up club supplies. Please contact Sally, the clubhouse manager

Used Golf-Club Sets: Our rental sets are old enough to recall words like niblick and persimmon. If you have a reasonable set of clubs you've replaced with better ones – because new clubs always hit further, right? – please consider donating your old set to the club.

Golfism

I'm not saying my golf game went bad, but if I grew tomatoes, they'd come up sliced.

- Lee Trevino



ChipShots: The Newsletter

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