

February 2004 Newsletter

Last year we started having starters on a regular basis...Wednesday to Sunday, at least. As Monday and Tuesday mornings have leagues taking up a good portion of the times we felt it was not necessary to have starters on those days. Although the starters did not stay all day it was their objective to get the day off to a good start. It worked out quite well, we thought. And, yes, we did get some people asking why the tee times had changed to 9 minutes and why; when the group ahead was out of range they could not start. This was all done for a reason. As our course has a rather short par 4 for a starting hole and a par 3 for the second hole it would bunch up on the second tee and maybe all the way to the fourth tee. Having people start at longer intervals allows for those having trouble on the second hole to get it together and on their way. Therefore the ones just teeing off on the first hole took longer to get to what could have been another wait. Kind of like putting too many cars on the 401 at the same time and we all know what that can be like!! Our intention then, is to have starters in the mornings on days when there are no leagues or tournaments going on.

We want to thank you for your patience while we were doing the car paths last summer. It turned out to be a much longer process than even we thought. It took longer as we wanted to make sure we made them wide enough to handle all our maintenance equipment. But they look great, some may need a little tweaking along the way but they will be much appreciated on those days when cars would not be allowed out because of course conditions. Car paths will be mandatory on wet days but other times are not mandatory. The reason you are not required to use them all the time is the fact that after time the ends of the paths will wear down considerably with the constant usage.

A note about one of our long range plans at Pine Crest. We are currently looking into a complete renovation of all our sand traps in 2005. We are planning to move, enlarge or remove them as well as adding drainage to them. We are also investigating different types of sand to best fit our needs.

Our new car/caddy shed, affectionately called "the hanger" proved to be just the right size. All our private cars and those that had electronic caddies were allotted spots and it seemed to work pretty good. There were a few glitches with people having the same type of caddy so in the future we ask that those who store their equipment in this building have their names on EVERY piece of equipment. There are signs in the building advising this also. We do expect to have a few more slots this year so those that asked that their names be put on the list have a good chance at getting a spot this year.

Our new computer system in the pro shop had a few glitches when it came to dealing with people that have car packages. It was suppose to deduct 1 round from your account every time a car was taken and while it did that on the office computer it did not print out the proper balance on the customer copy. Because people found this confusing we are going to print car package cards that we will sell and physically deduct the proper allotment each time a car is used. For those who still have some balances on their packages you will be given a card at the time you sign up for your membership with the balance you had left at the end of last year. We are also going to revamp the price and structure of our car packages. We will have more information for you after we get up and going in the spring.

Our Pro John Kindred sent us some thoughts to pass along to you.

He writes:

"I would like to welcome everyone back to yet another wonderful year at Pine Crest. Our last season was such a big success that we will try to do it again this year, only better. Thank you for all your participation and support last season and I look forward to coming back to the 2004 golf season as your golf professional"

Some of you may be aware of the new government legislation regarding privacy issues. Please know that Pine Crest Golf Club does not, will not and has never sold our membership data base. If any of you feel that the information we ask for is not necessary please let us know. We only ask for what is deemed pertinent for our use. We do, however give out members phone numbers to other members.

There is going to be a change in the date your membership has to be paid this year. It will be due on April 4 rather than March 31. Therefore our dates for being open for payment will be as follows:

Wednesday March 31; 1-6
Thursday April 1; 1-6
Friday April 2; 1-6
Saturday April 3; 1-5
Sunday April 4; 1-5

For payment we take Cash, Visa, Master Card, Debit Cards, American Express and Checks.

See you in the spring

Bob and Jan