

The Linkster

February 2005

Editor: Derek A. Sprague

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From the President....
Donna Jock

Send us your
E-mail address

I'm very excited about the upcoming golf season! Mother Nature got us anxious with the beautiful Spring-like weather at the beginning of this month. Be patient! Spring will be here before you know it. The membership can help again by recruiting their friends and family to play golf this year. Maybe there are new golfers who have never played before, or maybe they played in the past and would like to get back into it. The more people you can recruit to the game, the better off our Club will be.

As you can see by the sign at the bottom of this page, the Board recently adopted a policy to prohibit cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, sliding, snowmobiling, and walking on the courses. We have posted two signs in the parking lot. When the signs come down in the Spring, walking will be permitted on the courses. In addition to the damage that could be caused by a small number of people, we recently had two separate incidents of skiers that caused the Board to worry about the safety of individuals and the liability it poses by allowing the winter sports on our property. We had three skiers ski across #15 West pond and two other skiers were lost for nearly 2 hours before finding their way back to the Clubhouse.

We currently have about 350 members on our e-mail database. Many of you are already on our list. If you would like to receive weekly updates about the happenings at the Club, please send us your e-mail address to proshop@malonegolfclub.com. If you have recently changed your e-mail address, please send us the new one. I'll be sending out an e-mail on Friday February 18th. If you didn't receive it, send us an e-mail and we'll put you on the list.

Many members have commented on how they like receiving the weekly updates throughout the season to keep them informed of specials, tournament deadlines, tournament results, etc.

Notice
**For your safety and
due to damage to the Courses:
Cross-Country Skiing
Snowshoeing
Sliding
Snowmobiling
Walking
Is Now Prohibited!**

From the Greens....

Andy McKee

I hope everyone has enjoyed their winter so far. It won't be long before the courses are open again for golf.

As Spring approaches in the next 60 days or so, the weather often determines the golf course conditions for the upcoming season. As Donna pointed out in her article, the Board is now prohibiting the use of the courses for winter sports including walking. There have been too many people going on to the greens and tees. When you pack the snow down, it turns to hard packed snow or even ice as it begins to melt and it can do damage to the grass as it begins to grow in the Spring. This Spring and Summer, the grounds crew will be working on several projects. A large culvert will be added to the left of #14 West fairway bunker and backfilled to make that more playable for those that tend to hook the ball over there. More drainage will be added to the end of #15 West fairway and rough to help drain that entire area. This is the final year of our three year sand replacement project. The crew will be replacing the sand on holes #2, #3, #5 and #6 East. The crew will experiment with leveling the blue tee box on #4 West and the red tee box on #9 West if time and money permit. Finally, the Club plans on paving the main utility road that heads out to the West Course and finish up paving all the cart paths near holes #2, #8, and #9 West.

One of the most exciting things the Greens Crew is looking forward to is using the new equipment purchased last Fall thanks to the membership's approval at the Annual Meeting. A total of five pieces of equipment were

purchased. All pieces are manufactured by Toro: A 4-wheel drive utility vehicle with dump box, fairway mower, rough mower, greens mower, and sand bunker rake machine. Scott and Steve have been using the 4-wheel drive utility vehicle to survey the course over the winter to check for erosion, downed trees, etc.

Let's all hope for good weather this Spring and an early opening date.



John Child, Chief Mechanic, works all winter long preparing the equipment for the spring opening.



The new Toro Workman has a Kubota diesel engine, 4-wheel drive and a heated cab for year round work..

From the General.... Derek Sprague

At the end of January, I made my annual trip to Orlando, Florida for the 52nd Annual PGA Merchandise Show. It was a very productive buying trip. We have all the latest fashions coming in from some of our regular vendors plus some new ones such as Cutter & Buck, LBH, Ashworth, Gear For Sports, Sport-Haley, Fidra, Nike, Sun Mountain, Sun Ice, Roche, WeatherProof and others. We will be adding a new footwear line for men and women from ECCO. These shoes are on the higher end and well-known for their comfort. We currently have a large selection of FootJoy shoes in stock if you need a new pair before you go on vacation. We have some neat new accessories coming in such as Tervis Tumbler glassware, leather handbags from Latico, and new golf tees that are proven to give you a few extra yards off the tee! (Over 300 tour pros are using these tees!) The major equipment manufacturers for 2005 will be Ping, Callaway, Cleveland, and Titleist. I'll be expanding Ping's fitting capability with a new fitting cart that has over 40 clubs in it. I'll be going to Scottsdale, Arizona at the end of February for three days of training at the Ping factory. The new rage in clubs is the hybrid utility clubs. We'll have plenty in stock from Callaway and Cleveland. These clubs generally replace your longer irons. Most of the new merchandise will be in by the end of April or middle of May.

I hope we have an early Spring as I'm sure all of you do.

Club hires Assistant Manager

As the Club continues to grow both in Golf Operations and in the Restaurant, the Board created a new position of Assistant Manager. This position will assist both the General Manager and Restaurant Manager with the daily duties of operating the Club.



Kris Hardy was hired last November as the Assistant Manager and he began his duties January 10, 2005. Many of you know Kris as he is a lifelong resident of Malone and has been a member of the Malone Golf Club for the past 10 years. Kris graduated from SUNY Brockport with a B.S. in Physical Education, concentrating in Sport Management, and also attained minors in Business, Recreation and Leisure. During the summer of 2001, he was employed at the Malone Golf Club to complete his required internship for his Sport Management curriculum. Please welcome Kris aboard!



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Reminder

Pay your membership dues by March 1st to receive the lowest rate. Cart coupons are only available until
March 1st.

(Cart coupons cannot be carried over from one year to the next.)

For your convenience, we accept MasterCard, Visa, American Express, and Discover. Your dues must be postmarked by March 1, 2005.

If you wish to pay your dues in person, the Pro Shop office is also open between 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday through Friday.