



THE GRIZZLY GROWL

June 6th, 2014

Issue 2

UPCOMING EVENTS:

June 15th
Father's Day

June 29th
Kodiak Bear
Open



**The Growl is a
Bi-Weekly
Publication to
Keep You
Informed About
What's Going
on at Bear
Creek Golf Club.**

The Bunkers Get Some Love

Over the past month, the maintenance staff has added more than 100 tons of fresh sand to various bunkers throughout the course. They have also created and implemented a strategy to de-compact the existing sand. As they continue this process over the next few months, there will also be a new edge created. Playability will improve greatly and the course will look much more aesthetically pleasing.

Junior Golf Camps are Underway

PGA Golf Professional Kirk Porter has directed the Junior Program at Bear Creek since 2002. The program consists of scheduled week long camps that run Monday - Friday from 9am - 11:30am for juniors ages 8 - 16. What makes Bear Creek's Junior Camps so special is that Kirk spends time each day on a specific swing/shot, meets for rules and course etiquette, and then the kids have a contest with prizes. Juniors enjoy the course field trip where they get a feel as to how to play the game, take stroke penalties, get free relief from on course obstructions and much more. The week finishes up with a 5-hole tournament and the top 3 finishers are awarded trophies. This camp is perfect for juniors wanting to begin the game of golf or to improve what they may already know. They are also able to meet other kids and have fun while learning. Photos from this week's Junior Golf Camp are posted to our Facebook page.

Driving Range is Open and Looking Good

If you have not started practicing yet, it's time to get out there. Our range is open from sun up to sun down almost every day. It is currently closed on Wednesday mornings between 6am - 10am so we can pick up all the golf balls and cut the grass. You can purchase tokens in the Pro Shop. A small bucket is \$5, Medium is \$8, and a Large is \$10. By purchasing a bucket of range balls, you are also able to use the Putting Green that day at no charge. Multiple Hitting Targets are marked at 50 - 250 yards and there's more room for the big hitters.

A Surprising Wedding Visit

Guests of the Stanbrough/Pollard Wedding Reception on Saturday, May 31st were visited by a surprising group that Bear Creek has never seen in its history of Special Events. Planned by the bride's sister and Maid-of-Honor, with the help from Event Coordinator Sara Boehlein, well-costumed zombies interrupted the event and put on a performance that guests and staff alike will never forget. With their coordinated choreography to Michael Jackson's "Thriller" they impressed everyone, including the shocked bride and groom. STFlashMob is a charity group that performs flash mobs for various events and donates half of their proceeds to a local charity. If you'd like to see a video of Saturday's surprise, please visit our Facebook page. For more information about the Flash Mob group, you can visit www.STFlashMob.com.

Tee It Forward Red Tee Markers

When Mark arrived at Bear Creek back in March, he received a lot of input from the golfing clientele concerning a multitude of different topics. One of the most consistent thoughts was that due to the design of the course, Bear Creek was somewhat intimidating in its length, particularly with mid to high handicap female golfers, as well as to juniors and beginners of all ages and genders. In order to address this concern, Bear Creek has instituted the "Tee It Forward Red Tee Markers". Tee It Forward is a program promoted by the PGA of America to encourage non-golfers to become golfers and infrequent golfers to play more regularly, by making the game less difficult and less time consuming. Using this train of thought, we have set up red tee markers on all 18 holes at Bear Creek. This not only shortens the hole for ladies, juniors, and beginners, but it also takes out of play any hazards or high grass between the green markers and the fairway. While we understand that some of our more hard core lady golfers will want to continue playing from the green markers, the response has been overwhelmingly in favor of the red markers to date. We had more female golfers in this week's Senior Scrambles than previously, and the response in the Sunday Couples has been heartening as well.

Junior League Starting Soon

Bear Creek's Junior League is in its 13th Season. There are two divisions, the Cub Division for juniors ages 9-10 and the Bear Division for ages 11-17. On Wednesday afternoons, Cubs play 5-holes and Bears play 9-holes, teeing off from either the Tee It Forward Markers or Regulation Green Tees depending on skill level. There is a weekly contest, end of season tournament and banquet, plus a Family Fun Day towards the end of the season. Juniors are able to sign up once, or play every week! Please visit the Leagues page of our website for more information.



Staff Spotlight:



Meet Dennis Baez

Dennis is a new Cashier in our Pro Shop who joined our team in March. He will also be running our Junior League along with Patrick Koch. Dennis is a retired Math Teacher of 28 years with Wentzville Holt High School. At Holt, he also coached soccer and is still the Assistant Golf Coach. He had previously worked at Innsbrook with Mark Waltman in the Pro Shop. In his spare time, Dennis loves golfing, fishing, and visiting the beach. Fun Fact: In the 1980's, Dennis had the opportunity to coach soccer in Scandanavia for a month with Team USA.

Have News You'd Like to Share with Fellow E-Bear Subscribers? Submit your Request to our Marketing & Promotions Director Sara Boehlein at bearcgcevents@aol.com