



THE GRIZZLY GROWL

August 1, 2014

Issue 6

UPCOMING EVENTS:

August 10th:
Koala Bear Open



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

Positive Pace of Play Progress

The staff at Bear Creek Golf Club wants to extend our thanks to those of you who have played the course on weekends in July and participated in our Pace of Play Monitoring Program. Because of your efforts and those of our marshalls/starters, we seem to be making progress against slow play! After pace of play data from the first half of July verified the need to meet the slow play issue head-on, last weekend was a breath of fresh air. We had a total of 34 foursomes fully document the duration of their 18-hole rounds, from the time they hit their first tee shot on #1 until they walked off #18 green, with the following results:

- 3 foursomes played 18 holes in less than 4 hours
- 22 four-somes played in 4-4.5 hours
- 11 foursomes played in 4.5-5 hours
- Only one foursome took more than 5 hours to play, and that was because they stopped for a 30-minute lunch after the first nine.

Hopefully this is an indication that we are promoting awareness of the need to "Enjoy Golf with Urgency"!

Happy Birthday to YOU!

Bear Creek has introduced a BRAND NEW Birthday Club! Our previous Birthday Club off of the Bear Creek website is no longer active. Instead, we have created a new program that will automatically send you a special offer two weeks prior to your birthday without you having to log online and print the special for yourself. So how can you get involved with this new special offer? Just stop by our Pro Shop the next time you play and fill out a slip with your name, email address, phone number, and birth date and that's it! Make sure you get signed up sooner than later! If you sign up within the two week deadline of your birthday, unfortunately you'll have to wait until next year!

Maintenance Message

Through the dog days of summer, a number of maintenance practices are adjusted in order to cope with the stress on the course's grass. The height of cut on greens is lengthened from 0.125 inches to 0.14 inches. It doesn't sound like a major increase, but every little bit counts! The roots on the greens tend to get shallow, leading to the need for more frequent watering and softening of the greens. This produces more severe ball marks if they aren't repaired. A topdressing of sand can be applied to help combat this problem, but if temperatures get too hot, this sand can burn the turf. The growth of the rough also really slows down this time of year. Some areas that need to be mowed twice a week before may now only need to be mowed once. Other areas might not need mowing at all. The zoysia grass grows a lot more aggressively and thin areas tend to fill up as it moves laterally. Weeds - such as crabgrass, goosegrass, and nutsedge - can become more prevalent as the cool season grass is stressed.

Pro Tip: Practice on the Putting Green

Save 3 to 5 strokes per round when you practice on the putting green before you play. That's right, most golfers very seldom use the putting green before they play. Take 10-15 minutes before your round to fine tune your putting stroke. The putting green is built and maintained just like the other 18 greens on the course, so it will give you a good indication as to what to expect. Use three balls and start with three foot putts, then work your way back an additional foot until you get to 10 ft. Then try 15, 20, 25, and 30 foot putts too. This will perfect your accuracy greatly on the green. Get familiar with the breaks by taking your three balls and trying 5, 10, 15, and 20 foot breaking putts. Try left to right, right to left, up hill, and down hill. Finalize your practice by putting out your three balls to three different pins. The goal is to average two putts or less for the three putts. Once you're on the course playing, record the putts you take on each hole. After your round, calculate your putting stroke average by taking the total number of putts you had from on the green and divide by the # of holes you played. Monitor this number as you play so that you can measure your success and intensify your practice if needed.

Ready Golf on the Greens

In the last issue, we addressed saving time in scorekeeping as you leave a green. Today we will deal with saving time on the putting green. Ready Golf on the greens dictates that if one player arrives at the green well before the others, he should line up and stroke his putt, without regard to whether he/she is "away" or not. A player on the green collar who chooses to keep the pin in, should play before one on the green at a greater distance, to save time in handling the flagstick. If a player misses his first putt, he should "continuous putt" until he holes out and not waste time marking his ball. As each player continuous putts, the remaining players should be lining up their putts so that they will be ready to putt as quickly as possible. By the time the last player hits his first putt, one of the other players should have the flagstick in his hand so he can replace it and all four can vacate the green as soon as possible. While there are rare instances where golf etiquette overrules Ready Golf, in most cases, the procedures outlined above will be worthwhile in making for a more enjoyable and less time-consuming round of golf.



From Our Kitchen to Yours: Barry's Chicken Salad Recipe

- 16 oz. Diced, Cooked Chicken
- 2 Cups Mayonnaise
- 2 Tablespoons Dijon Mustard
- 2 Tablespoons Sweet Relish
- 3 Diced Celery Stalks
- 1/4 Cup Diced Green Onion
- 1 Tablespoon Ranch Dressing
- Salt & Pepper to Taste

Mix all ingredients together and let set for 30 minutes before eating. You can add more or less sweet relish and mustard to adjust to your liking. Add grapes or almonds to add a extra, special touch!

Staff Spotlight:



Meet Kayleigh Martinez

Kayleigh is the Assistant Event Coordinator here at Bear Creek. She has a strong passion for planning and organizing events and continues to expand her experience in the industry. Starting in high school, she helped plan and organize a variety of events from community blood drives to a district-wide convention for the Missouri Association of Student Councils. She then interned with Xanadu Public Relations in planning St. Charles Fashion Week in 2012. Kayleigh is a also a full time student pursuing her Bachelor's Degree in Human Resources at Lindenwood University and is expected to graduate in December 2016. Fun Fact: In January 2013, she had the opportunity to intern at Walt Disney World in the Disney College Program and work for the one and only, Mickey Mouse!

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