

Railside



FEATURING

*A LETTER FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER,
UPCOMING EVENTS, AND MORE!*

MAY
2017



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Looking Ahead

LETTER FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

DEAR RAILSIDE FRIENDS,

It's good to be back! Good to be back on the golf course and good to be back in our nearly-summer routine. League, burger night, golf events, social events, and more. Now if only the weather would warm and the sun would shine...

A quick overview of a few things that are on our long-range plan.

We met last fall / winter with Bruce Matthews who is the original course architect from 25 years ago. He has advised us on a few projects over the years, but this time we specifically sat with him to lay out a Master Plan for the next five years.

Bruce gave us some wonderful insight as to the evolution of golf courses over the last 25 years as it related to technology and golf course lengths. As we looked at the entire golf course, Bruce put together a wish list of improvements and changes. As a result we have \$800,000 worth of projects we would like to tackle in the Master Plan.

The first one he recommended was to remove some trees and add some trees – so over the next month or so you will see a fair amount of tree work being accomplished.

We hope to make changes recommended in the master plan on six holes per year for the next three years. This will include sand bunker renovation re-grading and putting drainage in some fairway locations as well as other major improvements. Work will need to be done in the fall so that we do not interrupt play during the summer golf season. Stay tuned.

Thanks for your continued support of the club and we look forward to our best year yet!

Regards,

Jim Bultema
General Manager



From the Pro

GOLF EVENTS

Welcome to the 2017 golf season! As you turn the page to a new month, or swipe to a new month on your smartphone, May brings lots of golf activities to mark down. Here is what you can expect in the coming weeks:

May 12 | Ladies' Golf Social
May 20 | Men's Team Skins
May 28 | Couples' Red Poppy

You will find all of the important details and sign-up sheets for each event posted on the bulletin boards near the locker rooms. And as always, please ask a member of your professional staff should you have any questions - we are happy to assist!

HANDICAP POSTING SEASON STARTS

April 1 was the first day golfers may turn in Michigan scores for their GAM handicap record. The official Michigan season runs from April 1 – Oct. 31. Golfers are able to post scores from Florida, Texas, California and other “year-round” golf states as deemed by the USGA, however, Michigan scores may only be posted during the official active season in this state.

MAJOR RULES CHANGES PROPOSED

The R&A and the USGA have released a preview of golf's proposed Rules, which are due to take effect on January 1, 2019. In an effort to modernize golf's rules, the governing bodies of the game are addressing the following categories:

- Ball at Rest
- Ball in Motion
- Taking Relief
- Areas of the Course
- Equipment
- Playing a Ball
- When to Play During a Round
- Player Behavior

Under these eight categories, 33 proposed items are being changed. I encourage you to visit usga.org to read over and watch video of the proposed changes. You can even leave feedback for the USGA by taking a survey and leaving your thoughts on the new proposed rules. This will be the biggest rules overhaul in over 30 years.

GOLF LESSON PACKAGES NOW AVAILABLE

Are you ready to get serious about improving your game? The professional staff is ready to help you achieve your 2017 goals. We have a variety of lesson package options available along with ½ and full hour lessons available for a spring tune up. Playing lessons are another great way to take your instruction and apply it to actual playing conditions. Not only can we help you with your game on the course, we can also help you better think your way around the course too! Please see Matt or Emily for more information and to schedule your spring tune up. We look forward to seeing you on the course and at the Club!

Best,

Matt Koets
PGA Head Golf Professional



From the Superintendent

Course Update

As you know, the golf course has been extremely wet this spring due to heavy and consistent rainfall. We have received close to 10 inches of rain in the last two months, which is double the average amount. Please continue to follow the daily cart rules posted at the first tee (new sign).

Holes #2, 9, 15

We will be adding topsoil and seeding the stump holes in the areas where we took down trees in the fall, so please be cautious and avoid these areas to ensure the best conditions for growth. These areas will play as “grounds under repair” even though they will not be marked.

Driving Range

Please continue to follow the proper hitting procedures that are posted in the clubhouse. Hitting in a linear line will allow regrowth to occur much quicker than using a large square pattern. We have noticed that square pattern has become a trend. The range is a busy place all year, so to ensure good quality turf to hit from, please be cognizant of the hitting procedures.

Ball Marks and Divots

Please fix your ball marks and replace all divots or fill your divots with the sand provided on your cart.

Thank you for your continued assistance in helping maintain our beautiful course. I hope everyone has been enjoying their time so far this season. As always, please feel free to call or email with any questions or concerns.

Best wishes,

Jeff Smith
Golf Course Superintendent
railsidejeff@yahoo.com
616-706-0692



Golf Shop News

THE GOLF SHOP IS STOCKED WITH THE SPRING/SUMMER APPAREL LINES AND GOLF EQUIPMENT. PLEASE DON'T HESITATE TO REACH OUT TO YOUR PROFESSIONAL STAFF AS WE CAN ALSO ASSIST YOU WITH CUSTOM ORDERS.

EVENTS

Upcoming Events

Ladies' League Opening Night

TUESDAY, MAY 9

Shotgun at 6:00 pm. Buffet to follow.

Ladies' Golf Social

FRIDAY, MAY 12

5:00 pm

Men's Team Skins

SATURDAY, MAY 20

Shotgun at 8:30 am. Gallagher Cup Qualifier.

Couples' Red Poppy Best Ball

SUNDAY, MAY 28

Shotgun at 1pm

Couples' President's Cup

THURSDAY, JUNE 1

Matches Begin

Ladies' Ringer Event Begins

THURSDAY, JUNE 1

Ladies' Golf Social

FRIDAY, JUNE 2

5:00 pm

Couples' Twilight

(Nerd Night)

FRIDAY, JUNE 9

Shotgun at 6:00 pm

Family Golf Event

SATURDAY, JUNE 10

Shotgun at 1:00 pm

Junior Golf Opening Days

TUESDAY, JUNE 13 AND

THURSDAY, JUNE 15

Men's Member-Member

Championship

FRIDAY, JUNE 16 AND

SATURDAY JUNE 17

Gallagher Cup Qualifier

Ladies' Member-Member

Championship

FRIDAY, JUNE 23

AND SATURDAY, JUNE 24

Thistle Cup Qualifier



Dining Specials

WEDNESDAYS

LOCAL THIRST

Join us for \$3 Michigan brews and \$4 burgers every Wednesday from 4PM to close. Dining is open to the public.

EVERY FRIDAY

PRIME RIB SPECIAL

King or Queen cuts served with a house salad, green beans, au jus, and a baked potato.



Mother's Day Buffet

SUNDAY, MAY 14

Public and members welcome. The buffet will be available from 10am to 2pm. Please call (616) 878-1140 or email hannah@railsidegolf.com to reserve your time.



Membership Matters

Don't forget about our Membership Matters program. Email [Matt](#) the names of a few folks who you believe would make excellent additions to our community, and we'll thank you with a \$10 gift certificate (per person) to our restaurant.



Events, Weddings & Rehearsal Dinners

There are still a few dates available for 2017. If you know someone who was recently engaged, please email [Donna](#) for availability and scheduling.



April and May Birthdays

*CONGRATULATIONS ON ANOTHER TRIP AROUND THE SUN, FRIENDS.
PRAYING BLESSINGS ON YOU IN THE UPCOMING YEAR AND ALWAYS.*

Allison Alles	Patty Elzinga	Josh Kerns	Audrey Seal
Charles Alles	Paul Erlandson	Nancy Kitchen	Jamie Slagh
Sue Andringa	Michael Faas	Harold Krol	Matthew Smith
Carl Bartells	Nancy Faber	CJ MacKenzie	Jill Turcotte
James Berg	Chris Formsma	Steve Marcusse	Dennis Van Dyke
Andrew Bishop	Melissa Gietzen	Steve Mc Cadden	Scott Van Dyken
Larissa Bishop	Brenda Goorhouse	Stacy Moreno	Kim Van Namen
Matt Bishop	Brad Grutter	Mike Mysliwicz	Brian Vander Horst
Arthur Bott	Mike Hawkins	Christy Olivier	Harlen Weener
Douglas Brownley	Melissa Hitson	John Ott	Rebecca Westers
Tanya Cochrane	Mike Holtvluwer	Damion Payne	Cherie Williams
Kay Devries	Stan Jager	Susan Rysdyk	Michael Wood
Tim Dunkle	Janice Johnson	Wayne Schepers	Michael Yuhas

*IF YOUR BIRTHDAY IS IN APRIL OR MAY AND YOU DO NOT SEE YOUR NAME LISTED,
PLEASE [EMAIL JOY](#) SO WE CAN ADD YOU TO OUR LIST.*

RAILSIDE GOLF CLUB | 2500 76TH ST SW | BYRON CENTER, MI | 49315 | (616) 878-0202 | WWW.RAILSIDEGOLF.COM