



# Eastwood Newsletter



Volume 1, Issue 1

May 2011

## Your Eastwood Team

Carl VonWald  
President

Jeff Gorman  
PGA Professional

Jake Dewitz  
Assistant Professional

## Event Coordinators

Carl VonWald  
Ray Legrand

## May Event (this coming Sunday) 2 of 4 Combined Low Net

Our first event of the year is scheduled for Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup> with a shotgun start at 9:00am. The event is a Four Man Team event with each team using 2 of the 4 scores to create the combined low net. This will be a great opening event allowing each Men's Club member to establish an 18-hole round score for handicap purposes. Each player will play his own ball from tee to green. Make sure you begin scoring at the correct hole. **After finishing a hole mark each player's gross (actual) score.**

At the scoreboard the golf staff will subtract your handicap holes and add your two net scores together to produce your combined low net score. The lowest combined 18-hole net score will be the winner. New members without an established handicap must list their average score when entering the event. Thereafter they must start entering all of their scores. Any questions should be directed to the Handicap Chairman – Ray Clark - or the golf shop.

Remember you can enter the event either by phone or in person at the golf shop desk. Entries will be accepted until Thursday, April 29th. This gives the golf staff time to create evenly matched teams.

Everyone must make it to the course with enough time to find your team and get to your designated holes.

**THIS WILL BE A 9:00AM SHOTGUN START!!**

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 2** Letter from the President  
Help maintain our course
- 3** Letter from our Club Professional
- 4** Letter from our Assistant Professional
- 5** A Foot of Concrete
- 6** Ruffensore
- 7** MPGA Events

## Eastwood Driving Range

*Open daily from Dawn to Dusk*

“The difference between golf and government is that in golf you cannot improve your lie..”

## From the Club President

It was nice to see so many familiar faces at the ice breaker. I'm sure everyone can't wait for the weather to turn to the warm side. The golf season is just about to start full speed ahead with our first event on May 1<sup>st</sup>. I for one am looking forward to the company as much as the golf. Golf is a game that can be great just to be playing with friends or people you've just met, and if you're playing well it's icing on the cake. I think I speak for the men's club board in hoping everyone enjoys their season of golf.

P.S. Be careful about playing against members with winter established handicaps. They may take your money. I raised mine, through honest play, hopefully enough to help with my retirement account. I fear I may need to work 30 more years.

*Carl Von Wald*

## Help Maintain Our Course – Adopt a Hole

So far, we have volunteers as Hole Captains for 10 of the 18 holes. Captains are asked to recruit three more volunteers for their hole.

### **Adopt a Hole Duties**

- Clip grass from fairway and tee yardage markers
- Fix ball marks on greens
- Pick up trash, tees and cigarette butts from tees and greens
- Fill tee box divots with sand (par 3's)

Some of this can be done while you play. Make it habit whether you adopt a hole or not!

It will take a dedicated effort to trim around the yardage markers. On the day you choose to do this, stop at the pro shop and they will give you a cart and a tool kit. The tool kit will have a specially made yardage marker trimming tool. When you have finished, return the cart and the tool kit, and Men's Club will give you a drink ticket to thank you for your effort.

If you would like to be a Hole Captain, please contact the Pro Shop, or Mark Rieder 696-0868.

**Thanks for helping maintain our golf course.**

# Letter from our Club Professional

What a quick summer, hopefully you all enjoyed it. "*Just kidding*" With the wonderful turn out at the Ice Breaker this sets up for one of the best men's club seasons in Eastwood history. Hopefully you are all aware May 1<sup>st</sup> kicks off our Sunday events with a 9 a.m. shotgun. Please sign up early so we can coordinate a first class event for all.

I hope you all had a wonderful winter, as they seem to get longer every year. Maybe I'm just getting older. We have had some changes with our staff this season. Mr. Ryan Bakken has taken an assistants position at Pheasant Acres Golf Club located near Rogers Minnesota. Ryan and I had a wonderful relationship as golf professionals, Ryan will be missed. The situation puts Jake Dewitz in the driver's seat as my #1 assistant. As you know Jake was with us last year. Jake is pursuing his PGA card as most of my assistants over the years have done. Jake is maturing into a fine assistant golf professional. Also on staff this season returning from last fall is Cole Knoepke, Cole is currently waiting to get into the United States Air Force. Chris Myhro will also be back, Chris spent the year at Minnesota State University Mankato, attending college and also playing for the golf team. Any time you're in the golf shop feel free to introduce yourself to my staff, or let me if there is anything we can do for you.

In closing, before you get out on the golf course for your first or second time make sure you're doing some proper stretching. Those dormant winter bones need some activity. We don't need any of you on the shelf or the DL this spring.

Have a great 2011 golf season!

Your PGA Professional

*Jeff Gorman*

## ALL PUTTERS:

**25%-30% OFF**

Imagine what a new wand would do for your game?

## ALL Golf Bags:

**25%-30% OFF**

## Range Prices:

Half Bucket \$3.50

Full Bucket \$6.00

## **From the desk of the Assistant Pro**

Greetings gentlemen, the calendar reads April but the weather hasn't caught on. Never the less it's the Minnesota golf season, which brings with it 3-putts, snap hooks and men's club events. I hope you have all had a chance to get out on the course this year as it took to the winter very well.

In my second year at Eastwood I have been assigned the responsibility of handling any handicap questions or problems. All new men's club members are now active in the computer. The handicap season was extended this year by 1 month allowing scores to be entered April 1<sup>st</sup>, many of you have already posted scores, for those who have not, the first Sunday event is right around the corner. Accurately posting scores ensures each golfer be able to play one another regardless of skill level. If you have any questions regarding the handicap system or posting scores, be sure to ask our staff.

The 64-Man Match Play tournament filled up and exceeded the original 64 man cap; Jeff and I are working on a format to allow each player to compete for the championship. The other season long tournament is the Four-Ball event. For those of you not familiar with the Four-ball tournament it is a partner best ball match play format. You and your partner will play another team in an 18- hole match. The lowest net score per hole per team is counted as the team score. The winning team advances to the next round. The cost for this event is \$12/team. If you are interested in playing but do not have a partner please let us know as we should be able to find one for you.

Thursday Mini events begin May 19 2011. For those of you that are new to the club, the Thursday Mini's rotate weekly from individual format to a partner format. If you do not have anybody to play with for these events just call the shop and we can get you paired up. When setting up tee times for mini events please inform us of all the players' names so we can create scorecards prior to your arrival.

May 1<sup>st</sup> marks the first Sunday event shot gunning at 9:00 a.m. registration will begin at 8:00. Check in at the pro-shop to find your starting hole and team. There will also be a check in upstairs where rules sheets, and scorecards can be obtained, pari-mutuel betting will also be available.

Bring your best game and if there is any room left in the bag maybe some nice weather.

Assistant Golf Professional

*Jake Dewitz*

# A Foot of Concrete

GREETINGS.....At the "ice breaker" the concept of buying "a foot of concrete" for cart path extension was introduced. Reception to the idea was positive and \$900 dollars was donated from 36 individuals. Thus, the idea was born and the process started. At this point plans are to continue this process and embrace all who want to be part of the plan. When 1st started, the idea of collecting \$2500 seemed a long way off. It would be quite a statement if the remaining membership of the EW Men's Club each purchased a foot. Presently, it appears as though \$2500 may only be the beginning of something larger. The concept of larger and major donors has been discussed and we have had very positive feed-back to date. It goes without saying that "all donations are welcome" without regard to the amount. Look for an update to this process next month as we proceed up the hill towards the 3<sup>rd</sup> tee and the holes beyond.

## *Story from the Grouchy Golfer Blog*

Ok, so here's something you don't see every day. My friend (his identity shall remain a secret, as I have promised him that) owns a TaylorMade driver. While he likes the driver overall, he strongly disliked the tinny sound it made at impact. He decided to stuff cotton into the weight holes to try and deaden the sound. But after doing so, the cotton compacted, and he ended up with about 20 little pea-sized cotton chunks rolling around in his clubhead. It sounded like peanuts in a jar!

What he did next is the interesting part. He deduced that, since there was no way to retrieve the cotton pellets and cotton was flammable, it would be clever to pour a little gasoline into the weight holes and let the cotton soak it up. Then, he could light it and burn the cotton into noiseless ash. Here is where the trouble starts...

I think he poured a little too much gas into the holes because when he lit it, flames shot out about 6 inches from all four holes, scaring the living \$hit out of him! He dropped the club immediately and it landed head first onto the driveway (at least he was smart enough to do this highly technical procedure outside), leaving big scrapes on the crown. When he thought that the fire was out, he picked up the driver by the head only to feel the sharp pain of hot metal searing his fingertips. In knee-jerk reaction, he dropped the club again, scratching up more of the clubhead!

After a momentary fit of rage, he collected himself and tried to think through the situation. He decided to play it smart and allow the club to cool off before he picked up the club. Staring at his nicked up baby, he wondered if he could buff out the scratches in the paint. Well, those concerns about scratches soon became irrelevant as the paint started peeling off the clubhead before his very eyes! It turns out that there was still a bit of fuel inside the clubhead that continued to burn as my friend waited for it to cool. The smoldering fuel heated the clubhead so much that it peeled off most of the paint!

But there is a bright side to all of this - the procedure to burn away the cotton worked, and there are now NO more rattles in the head!!! When he phoned me and told me this story, I just about peed myself laughing, which prompted him to hang up the phone on me. I will try to be more consoling in the future...

*Golf Grouch Comment:* That's one way to smoke your driver! Who knows, maybe an engineer at TaylorMade will read this story and turn it into the next big thing in driver technology: RPD (Rocket Propelled Driver).

## Where were the MASTERS?

by Red Ruffensore

In 1934, wealthy amateur golfer Bobby Jones invited a bunch of his buddies to the Augusta National Invitational Tournament. The immortal Horton Smith won the inaugural tournament, and five years later, against the objections of Jones, the tournament was re-named The Masters. The tournament lived up to its name over the decades that followed. Gene Sarazen, Byron Nelson, Jimmy Demaret, Claude Harmon, Sam Snead, Ben Hogan, Arnold Palmer, Jack Nicklaus, Gary Player, Tom Watson are, by anyone's standards, Masters. The tradition is rich with golfers who have earned their place in history. It is a tournament of winners at many levels. That is the promise of the Masters every year. The great golfers will rise to the top to capture the legendary green jacket.

In recent years the list of champions is made of legends: Faldo, Couples, Woosnam, Crenshaw, Woods and Mickelson. Such is the tradition of the Masters. The best of the best rise to the top, year after year, to claim one of golf's greatest traditions.

***What the hell happened this year?????????*** Mickelson goes brain dead, Wood's charge dies quietly on the back nine on Sunday, Freddy is still hanging in there, but he's gotten long in the tooth. Where were Vijay, Retief, Padraig and Davis? Missed the cut.

So the tournament was taken over by a bunch of undeserving young golfers who have not yet earned the designation of Master. Charl Schwartzel is our 2011 Masters Champion. And while we all doff our sporty golf caps to him, who the heck is he? And why can't he spell his name? Or maybe he just hasn't decided if it is actually Carl or Charles.

This may be a brief era of transition. Tiger Woods is the youngest of the Masters, and he is on the downhill side of his 30's. It was fun to see Rory McIlroy leading the charge of the youngsters for three rounds. But you knew the Masters scenario would not play out. One day, Rory will be there. Jason Day played strong golf, but you still expected one of the Masters to catch him. Ogilvy, Donald, Cabrera and Choi all tried to muster a charge, along with Woods. But they all fell flat. And a relative unknown leads the charge on the back nine without a falter to win decisively. Charl Schwartzel. Unheard of, goofy name, but a champion none the less. We tip our hats, Charl, and hope to see you on the leaderboard in another tournament at some point in your career.

*Red Ruffensore*

# MPGA

## MINNESOTA PUBLIC GOLF ASSOCIATION

### *2011 MPGA Championship Schedule*

- Mid-Am/Individual Low Net • May 21 & 22 • Sundance
- Four Ball • June 18 & 19 • Emerald Greens
- Senior Public Links • July 23 & 24 • Goodrich
- **New!** Match Play Championship • July 30 - Aug 1 • Bunker Hill
- Combination • September 17 & 18 • Bunker Hill

Applications available at [www.mpga.net](http://www.mpga.net)