

# *You heard it through The Ivy Vine*



## **FROM THE PRO SHOP**

By: Eddie Moran

### **STARTING TIMES**

Even though I wasn't here in town, I hear you had some cold weather in November. And since I got back from the beach a couple of days ago, it hasn't exactly been summer weather. Looking at the long range forecast, December looks pretty normal, or maybe even a degree or so above average temperatures, so we should have a lot of days that are very "golfable".

With the shorter days, and likelihood of frost whenever skies are clear, we will be on our winter schedule through February, with tee times beginning at 9:00 weekdays and 8:30 weekends. If we were to have exceptionally warm weather, we may move the tee times up for a day or so if the normal tee times fill up, but we don't want to be scheduling tee times at 7:30 but have frost delaying us for an hour or two. And even with the later starting times, there may be times when we will be frost delayed beyond this, so we appreciate your patience and understanding on frosty mornings.

Also, on days when the weather is not so good, and the course is empty by mid afternoon, we will likely close the shop. If you want to play later in the day or just want to come out and hit some range balls on days when the weather is questionable, please call us and let us know you are coming out. We are glad to be here when people want to golf, but don't want to stick around late in the day when no one is likely to be here.

Now to the winter pack schedule. The senior men's packs will be at 10:00 Wednesdays and Fridays, and on Saturdays the men's pack is at 10:00 and the women's at 10:30. The mixed pack will be at 12:45 on Sundays. The ladies will be playing at 10:30 Tuesdays and Thursdays. We will also continue to have the senior men playing the green tees at 11:00 Mondays and Thursdays. Please call or be here 30 minutes before the scheduled tee time so we can get the teams together and get teed off on time.

I would also like to remind you that we will be closed on Christmas Day, but we will operate on regular hours Christmas Eve as well as the day after Christmas, and we will also be open New Year's Day at the regular time. And since most of you will be off work Christmas Eve, we will have a men's pack at 10:00 on Wednesday before Christmas, treating the day like a Saturday. We will also have a Saturday schedule on New Year's Day, with a men's pack at 10:00 and women at 10:30. Even though it is winter, we will still have a lot of good days for golf. I hope to see you out here.

## **GREAT SHOTS**

Despite the number of days that weren't particularly "golf friendly" last month, there were still some great shots.

Larry Moore, who has been playing very well lately, aced the 135 yard 4<sup>th</sup> hole, using a 9-iron. Considering that he plays left handed, this is an even greater accomplishment. Dennis Williams hit a couple of great shots, and got an eagle on hole #6.

And Adam Wright shot his personal best with a 97. ( I expect more good scores from you Adam – and no more whining about your quota being too high ! )

Congratulations to you on these great shots and great round.

## **CHRISTMAS HAM AND TURKEY DECEMBER 13<sup>th</sup>**

The weather for the Turkey Blitz was cold, but still 84 of you came out and left with a Thanksgiving Turkey. The long range forecast shows pretty good weather for our Christmas event. ( If the weather were to turn bad for this date, we will move it back a week to the 20<sup>th</sup>.)

Weather permitting, we will tee it up at 10:00 Saturday, December 13, with breakfast beginning at 9:00. The format will be the 6-6-6 format, with 6 holes Modified Alternate Shot, 6 holes best ball, and 6 holes Captain's Choice, with Men's, Senior Men's. Ladies', and Couples' divisions, assuming enough sign ups for each. The entry fee of \$25 plus cart includes breakfast and a Ham or Turkey for each participant ( top finishers get the first picks ).

Please sign up in the golf shop by Wednesday, December 10, so we can get a good idea of how many hams and turkeys we will need.

## **MERRY CHRISTMAS TO YOU ALL**

As we head into the holidays we wish all of you a very Merry Christmas. We hope the season brings all of you a lot of joy as you spend time with your family and friends. And if your schedule and the weather allow, that you might even spend a little time with us here at the course over the holidays.

Eddie

## **CHRISTMAS SHOPPING AT IVY**

As you are doing your Christmas shopping, don't forget Ivy Hill. Of course, we have the golf equipment and clothes available at very competitive prices, as well as trade-ins. You can also get certificates for lessons in the shop.

Make sure not to forget the member cart cards available for only **\$125 for 10 rounds** ( These will sell for \$144 after January 1.). This will save at least \$35 off the normal 2015 cart rates of \$16 per round, or \$10 for 9 holes. For your non-member golfing friends, we have the Preferred Customer Cards for \$30 per 18 hole round. This will present a substantial savings over the normal green fee and cart rates. And for any of you looking to "shop local" this Christmas, not only are cart cards

and golf rounds at Ivy buying American, but even the cards themselves were printed here in the Lynchburg area!

So when you are shopping for your golfing friends, or even for yourself, we hope you will come by Ivy Hill.

## **PIPESTEM TRIP SIGN-UPS BEGINNING**

It may seem like a long way off, but June will be here before we know it. Before we left last year we reserved the Pipestem Golf Course for the days of June 8 – 10, and 44 rooms for Sunday through Tuesday evening. We can get more rooms if needed – if we let them know in time - which is why we are beginning the sign-ups so early.

This year will be pretty much like last year. We play golf at 9:00 each morning, Monday through Wednesday. ( If you play Sunday it is on your own. ) The entry fee of \$325 per person includes:

- 3 nights lodging, double occupancy.
- 3 days of golf with cart
- club storage for 3 nights ( Last year it was only 2 nights )
- 2 nights dinners at the shelter ( Including beef tenderloin steak Monday evening )
- nice prize fund ( a little bigger than last year )
- conference room to meet in Tuesday and Wednesday mornings

Also, if someone has a non-golfing spouse that wants to go, the charge for room and two meals is \$175.00. ( Golf is actually VERY reasonable when we book the package through the lodge.) Of if you want your own room it is \$150 additional.

We will run the same format as last year. Men will play separate from the women on Monday and Tuesday. We will have the 4-person teams and 2-person blind teams the first two days. Wednesday we will have mixed teams, and play the 4-person team only to speed things up at the end. We will play points vs. quota, adjusting each day. And the women will have 10 “bling” tees. We have the whole course again. We will have your bags ready by 8:00 each morning when you get to the course. ( You will drop your bags by the course before dinner Sunday evening.)

As in past years, to get this rate I have to pay in full by the first week of April. So when you sign up please give me a check for \$325 per person. I will **NOT** cash it until the first week in April, but this way if someone wants to drop out they will need to get with me to get the check back, instead of me having to find them to finalize the status. As always you will still get a full refund up until the last day or two if something happens.

We look forward to this trip, and I hope all of you who went last year will come back again, along with some new people. This is not just a couples' trip, so if you want to go just get a golfing partner and sign up. I have the sign up sheet here at the shop. Just drop by with your check and we will have you on the list. I really believe that 2015 will be even better than last year – which I thought was great. Looking forward to you joining us.

## **WINTER BUNKER AND ROUGH RULES**

Hopefully the weather this winter will be better than last year, and we can keep playing regularly throughout the next few months. But with the cooler weather the course conditions have changed somewhat. And the bunkers may have various animals going through them, as well as people who do not rake. So through February, for all of our packs and organized play, we will be playing a lift, rake, and place in our bunkers, with placement within one scorecard. This is not intended to give anyone an unfair advantage, but to keep from being unfairly penalized if you are in an animal track or footprint.

We will also be moving the ball one scorecard length in the rough, as it will be freezing and thawing, and will be muddy at times.

These should make it fair for everyone, without compromising the game of golf. Hope you enjoy playing all winter.