

September Golf News

Congratulations to the Following:

2008 Men's Club Champions		
<u>Championship Flight</u>	<u>3rd Flight</u>	<u>6th Flight</u>
1 st - James Bray	1 st - Don Lopez	1 st - Bryan Buchanan
2 nd - Eric Early	2 nd - Jim Schreir	2 nd - Kent Taylor
3 rd - Ben Firebaugh/Rich Boone	3 rd - Mike Jordan/Craig Sandras	3 rd - Steven McArthur
<u>1st Flight</u>	<u>4th Flight</u>	
1 st - Cliff Spangler	1 st - Hi Nicely	
2 nd - Don Foster	2 nd - Onix Robertson	
3 rd - Scott Snow/Ray Sprinkle	3 rd - Scott Shortridge	
<u>2nd Flight</u>	<u>5th Flight</u>	
1 st - Ron Williams	1 st - Wayne Short	
2 nd - Jerry Green	2 nd - Rodney Thacker	
3 rd - Dennis Laliberte	3 rd - Jeff Munsey/Sandy Paterson	

2008 Men's Member-Guest Champions	
<u>Overall Champions</u>	
<i>Champions: David Graham & Jim Thompson</i>	
<u>Flight 1</u>	<u>Flight 2</u>
1 st Cliff Spangler – Jeff Helms	1 st Dennis Laliberte – Gary Laliberte
2 nd William Braxton – Tom Love	2 nd Kevin Hudson – Chris Hanson
<u>Flight 3</u>	<u>Flight 4</u>
1 st Chris Arnold – Joel Turner	1 st David Graham – Jim Thompson
2 nd Jim Reeks – Robert Mode	2 nd Steve Clayton – Kent Doughty
<u>Flight 5</u>	<u>Flight 6</u>
1 st Scott Snow – Mike Birkelbach	1 st Don Assaid – Gene Podell
2 nd Jerry Green – Bill Lange	2 nd Rick Furhman – Mike Furhman
<u>Flight 7</u>	<u>Flight 8</u>
1 st James Bray – Ron Cooper	1 st Scott Martin – Tom Griffin
2 nd Bob Billingsley – Bob Harrison	2 nd Chris Gold – Jim Siska
<u>Flight 9</u>	
1 st Brian Abel – Rich Shockey	
2 nd Shawn O'Neil – Paul Irvis	

September Dates to Remember:

1 st	- Labor Day	Observed Holiday
2 nd & 3 rd	- Green Aerification	9 holes closed each day
6 th	- Men's Fall Shoot-Out – 4 Man ABCD	8:00AM Shotgun
8 th	- Association of Realtors Outing	12:30PM Shotgun
9 th	- Sr. Inter-Club w/Mariners Landing	9:00AM Shotgun
9 th	- Glenvar High School Invitational	2:30PM Shotgun
10 th	- Botetourt Kiwanis Outing	1:30PM Shotgun
11 th	- Carpenters Foundation Outing	1:00PM Shotgun
12 th	- White Tire Outing	1:00PM Shotgun
18 th	- Spooky Crawford Outing	1:00PM Shotgun
19 th	- Spina bifida Outing	1:30PM Shotgun
20 th	- Ladies Club Championship	9AM Tee Times
20 th	- Lady Terriers Orange Bowl Classic	1:30PM Shotgun
22 nd	- SW VA Invitational Golf Challenge	Course Closed
23 rd	- Operation Military Parent Outing	1:00PM Shotgun
25 th	- Pro-Build Outing	1:00PM Shotgun
26 th	- Eastern Appalachian Teen Challenge	8:30AM Shotgun
26 th	- Yellow Book Outing	1:30PM Shotgun
27 th -28 th	- Battle of Botetourt	8:00 & 1:30 Shotgun
Oct. 4 th	- MGA Score Plus Putts	8AM Shotgun
Oct. 4 th	- Senior Men's Club Championship	9:00AM Tee Times
Oct. 4 th	- Couple's Finale (9 holes)	3:30PM Shotgun

Call for tee times! As we approach the fall season Ashley Plantation will be hosting several small afternoon outings. There will be occasions the first tee will be closed for an hour or two in the late afternoons. For our golf staff to give you the best service, we suggest you check the calendar above or call and make a tee time before arriving and expecting to play.

We want to thank everyone who supported **Patriot Golf Day over Labor Day weekend** by donating a minimum of one dollar to a fund with proceeds providing educational scholarships to families that have become disabled or lost their lives in the line of duty in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Patriot Golf Day – supported by the PGA of America and held on Labor Day Weekend, is the vision of Captain Dan Rooney, who is both a PGA Teaching Professional and an F-16 fighter pilot in the 125th Fighter Squadron of the Oklahoma Air National Guard. Please go to <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kGIolhysydY> and listen to Captain Rooney's Speech at this year's PGA Annual Meeting. The final comments are powerful! Well spoken!

Another way you can donate for this great cause! Taylor Made –Adidas Golf is supporting Patriot Golf Day by creating a **limited-edition driver** inspired by the F-16 “Viper” fighter jet that Captain Rooney piloted in his 2 tours in Iraq. The driver, which features advanced Taylor Made technology, features the Patriot Golf Day logo on the toe, a laser-etched F-16 jet on the sole, a deep “intimidation” black crown and a specially designed red, white and blue head cover. If you would like to see the driver we have it currently being displayed in the Golf Shop. This driver can be yours with the highest bid (all proceeds go to Folds of Honor Foundation). Minimum bid is \$350 and the auction will end September 30th.

Congratulations to James Bray for being our new 2008 Men's Club Champion. James beat Eric Early (2005 Club Champion) on the 16th hole to win 3 & 2 in the finals match. James will now represent Ashley Plantation in the Chrysler Club Championship Regional's at Lansdowne Resort in Leesburg, VA on October 16th with the opportunity to advance to the National finals in Naples, Florida where regional club champions will battle it out for the ultimate prize – entry into the PGA Tour's 2009 Bob Hope Chrysler Classic.

Have you posted your scores from Men's Member-Guest last weekend? Several golfers do not realize that even in match play or when you pick up on a number of holes the USGA still requires you to post a score. Please review these seven key elements of the USGA Handicap System and post your scores. The Handicap Committee will post scores for those who did not post. The score posted shall be the lowest score of that person in their last 20 scores.

1. An 18-hole score must be posted for all rounds of 13 holes or more, even if you pick up on some holes.
2. An 18-hole score also must be posted when you play two consecutive 9-hole rounds.
3. Posted scores must be reduced when you have an unusually high number of strokes on any hole. This procedure is called Equitable Stroke Control (ESC).
4. Tournament scores must be identified by a "T" when they are posted.
5. Your Handicap Index will automatically be reduced if your tournament scores are consistently better than your scores in informal play.
6. Each Club must have a Handicap Committee to supervise the system and ensure that all scores are posted.
7. The Handicap Committee must adjust the index of those players who do not post all their scores or ignore the basic handicap rules.

Once again a final thank you to the following sponsors that made this year's Member-Guest a success:

ACO Med Supply – Jim Reeks	Pinkerton Chevrolet
Aquarius Pools – Jerry Green	Pepsi
Awful Arthur's – Todd Lancaster	Ricky Cook Excavating
Bank of Fincastle – John Kilby	Riley Overbay – Sam Camp
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Cleaning Equipment & Services – Cliff Spangler	Simpson Funeral Home
Coca-Cola – Jimmy Clifton	State Farm – Lesley Owens
Euro Specialty	State Farm – Todd Selkirk
Frito Lay – John Frost	Steve Rossi
Landscape Supply	Sunset Grille & Catering – Don Sutliff
NexTech – Troy Metz	Taylor Siding – Greg Taylor
Ntelos	Valley Cleaners – Walt Lacy
Oakey's Funeral Home	Wrigley – Jim Schrier

Welcome Ashley Plantation's *NEW* Assistant Golf Professional! On August 26th Brandon Ramsuer began his professional golf career as the new Assistant Golf Professional here at Ashley Plantation. Brandon is a 2008 graduate of Virginia Tech and a native of Roanoke. Brandon is eager to begin his quest towards obtaining membership in the PGA of America and has already registered for his first Playing Ability Test. Chip and I have been pleased to hear from a number of members already that have known Brandon and have commented on what a great selection we made for an Assistant Professional. Please introduce yourself to Brandon and wish him well on his new career!

2008 Parent – Child Championship:

The 2008 Parent – Child Championship was contested on Saturday, August 16th with a field of 33 teams divided into 4 flights. It was great to see such a tremendous turnout that featured Mothers, Fathers and Grandparents playing alongside their juniors. The juniors consisted of 10 girls and 23 boys – most of which attended one of our summer junior camps held at Ashley Plantation!

Fantastic Round of Golf! Orin Reed, a member of the senior group at Hanging Rock had the round of his life at Ashley Plantation last week. He birdied the first 8 holes and after 3-putting 9 for bogey turned in 29 strokes! His putter got cold on the back with a uneventful 35 turning in the low round of his life a 64! Not bad for a 72 year old 13 handicapper!

Attention Men's Member-Guest participants! Team pictures are ready for pick up in the Golf Shop.

Demo Club Sale! All 2008 demo clubs in the Golf Shop are now on sale at 40% OFF!!!!

Member-Guest Recap (by Peter Gardner, PGA):

We hope everyone that participated found this years Member – Guest weekend to be both enjoyable and competitive. The weekend kicked off with the traditional Friday Dogfight in which Member – Guest teams competed in a two-man net best ball competition during their practice rounds. The Dogfight was won by Arlon Courington and his guest Tom Epps who combined for a sizzling 58 – just edging out the 59 carded by Terrel Benefield and his guest Dennis Bowling.

The festivities continued Friday evening with events around the clubhouse. 60's music was roaring from a pair of 3 foot high beer-stained speakers with Ole Miss stickers on them while crowds gathered around the back putting green to compete and watch the action on the 6 hole putting course that featured sand traps, water hazards, trees, rocks and out-of-bounds. No one broke par on the tough par 12 layout, but three players; Arlon Courington, Mike Madonna and Ken Tucker managed to turn in even par rounds on the first – ever PG signature design. Several players did manage to hole out in one on the greasy downhill 10 foot 6th hole to qualify for the chance to put for \$5000 cash during Saturday's lunch break.

A gaggle of contestants hopped-up on testosterone made their way to the 10th tee to compete in the Long Drive Competition which mercifully consisted of three age divisions. In the 35 and under division 160 lb. soaking wet Troy Duncan striped one 343 yards to beat Matt Sheffer's 337 yard poke. In the 36 – 50 year old division Steve Clayton registered 336 yards to edge out Chris Arnold's 335 blast. The 51 and older division featured a low-running hook down the tracks by Norfolk Southern's own Scott Snow that settled at the 314 mark. A valiant effort by Shawn O'Neil came up short at 297 to claim second place.

The third contest of the night – that continued into the night aided by headlights aimed at the 18th green was the closest to the pin contest. A testy shot from the back of the 10th tee to the 18th green – hampered by the nearby commotion of the long drive contests and the pedestrian traffic between the pavilion for refreshments and the 10th tee as evidenced by the pile of recyclables found on the 10th tee Saturday morning. But through all the distraction Tom Oxley was able to hit one to 4'11" to handily beat Rick ("generous contributor to the recyclables pile") Garletts at 6'.

Everyone enjoyed the evening's festivities as the weather was perfect and the Don Sutlif and his crew served up piles of appetizers and cold beverages to keep everyone in a great mood!

Saturday kicked off bright-and-early with 108 players lining up for 27 holes of play. This year's format was 9-hole match around featuring 9 flights of 6 two-man teams in each flight. Three 9 hole matches Saturday followed by two 9 hole matches Sunday. Teams were able to accumulate points during each match based on the number of holes won. The teams with the most points in their respective flights were declared the flight winners and earned a spot in the "Shootout" Sunday afternoon to determine the Member-Guest Champion.

The Shootout proved to be a very exciting addition to the Member-Guest schedule. Every one of the 54 teams had a vested interest in the outcome of the Shootout. If the team that won the flight you were in won the Shootout everyone in that flight got paid!

This format created a gallery of more than 100 competitors, family and friends who gathered on the 10th tee to watch the 9 flight winning teams compete for the overall championship.

The Shootout format eliminates 3 teams on the first hole (in this case hole #10), then 2 teams on the second hole (hole # 11), then 2 more teams on the third hole (hole #17) leaving two teams to battle-it-out for the title on hole 18!

The drama really began on the 3rd Shootout hole (#17) where team Spangler, Assaid and Graham all tied with pars and were faced with a “chip-off” to eliminate one team. A nasty 20 foot downhill left-to-right breaker was selected. First up, team Spangler hits a tight little spinner that settled 3 feet from the hole. Next up team Graham lofts a beautiful sand wedge into the side of the slope and softly rolls right into the bottom of the cup! Team Assaid steps up third knowing they need to get inside 3 feet to eliminate team Spangler. Don’s chip breaks towards the cup but cruelly slides 5 feet by leaving teams Spangler and Graham to play the 18th for the title.

All four players surrounded the hole which was tucked on the left edge of the green with their second shots. As three birdie tries missed the mark, team Graham guest, Jim Thompson then settled over a downhill 15-footer and confidently drained it for the win! A very exciting finish for team Graham who chipped in on 17 to earn the right to play 18 and then birdied 18 to claim the title!

Chip and I would like to thank everyone who participated in this year’s event and a special thank you to the MGA Committee who spent many hours planning this year’s format and schedule of events as well as the Staff who worked long hours over the weekend to help ensure an enjoyable time for all.