



ECMGC Newsletter

Eagle Crest Men's Golf Club
Summer 2023



President's Message

Greetings,

It has been a few months since we published a Newsletter. It has been a very busy spring getting the Men's Club schedule put together, figuring out what tournaments we will operate, and getting the tournament committees staffed with an assigned Chair. We have met mostly once per month to set the Wednesday play schedule, tournament schedules, Home/Home, and Resort Cup plans. Based upon feedback from our members, we have made some changes to the tournaments. A lot of our members have trouble playing three days in a row, so we changed the Match Play, Eagle Crest Cup and Club Championship to spread out over a week. The Fall Classic will remain three consecutive days. Each of these events have planning committees with a Chair assigned to work the details of each event. We will continue to make changes with input from our members. We are working very hard to make each tournament very attractive for our members with competition, prizes, and camaraderie. Stay tuned for advance notice about the events and registration.

The golf season is in full bloom as our late spring has arrived. Some great weather to spend time on one of our courses with your buddies. The Ridge and Challenge course

are in great shape while the Resort is looking better all the time.

I would like to develop an outstanding Team for the Resort Cup which begins June 5th at Black Butte. Greg Middlebrook is our captain, and he has assured me that with additional training we might be able to bring home a trophy. We just have not been able to field a team that is competitive with the other three Resorts. We have exceptional players but we do not play well on their courses. We need a better training program which is in the development stage.

We will plan another year-end general meeting with awards at the end of the year. We are planning on subsidizing our tournament luncheons this year rather than planning separate luncheons.

Our club had 99 members last year and this year will be close to the same. We have several new members so, when you see that new face, introduce yourself and offer to buy the gentleman a brew. We typically get around 50 players for each Wednesday Men's Day. I would like to see 75+ if possible. We are not limited to the number of players so come out and join us for a day of fun golf, friends (old and new), a brew afterward to tell all the lies of the round.

We will continue to work hard to make our club one of the best in central Oregon. If anyone has any ideas that could help our club, please submit those ideas to Curt

Davis of the Advisory Committee so we can evaluate the possibility of implementation. Stay well, hit them long and straight.

Roger Edgerly. President ECMGC
Comments? redgerly@aol.com



Eagle Crest Cup (formerly Ryder Cup). This was the second year for the Eagle Crest Cup with two teams going head-to-head like the regular Ryder Cup. It turned out to be both fun and competitive with the Red Team coming from behind on the last day to defeat the Blue Team 22.5 to 17.5. We hope more people will join the fun next year.



Resort Cup: The Resort Cup competition between Eagle Crest, Black Butte, Widgi Creek and Sunriver with kick off on June 5th at Black Butte. The rest of the schedule is July 10 at Eagle Crest, August 14th at Widgi Creek and September 18 at Sunriver. I team is organized by Greg Middlebrook and Pat Swope. The goal is to improve on our 2nd place finish from last season.

Match Play Tournament: The Match Play Tournament has returned this year chaired by Rob Mahoney. The format is double elimination format with an 8-man gross flight and two 16-man net flights. The tournament began in May and will continue to its conclusion in June. It is nice to have this tournament back as a part of our men's club schedule.

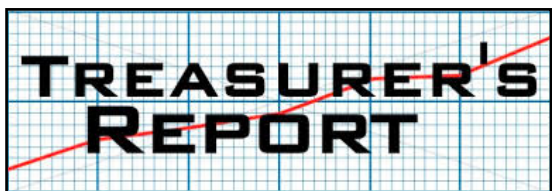
Men's Club Championships: This tournament is open to all men's club members who have played in at least 5 regular events. The dates are August 23, 24 and 30. This is an individual competition event which will crown a club gross and net score champion and flight champions. Look for details later this summer. Dale Yoakum and committee are organizing this event.

Fall Classic: The Fall Classic is a three-day fun event open to men's club members and their guests. The event is a 2-man competition which includes a scramble, a shamble and a 2-net best ball format. The dates for this event are October 2, 3 and 4. Roger Edgerly and committee are planning this event with details out in August.

Men's Club Gear: We are working on a plan to provide clothing items shirts, hats, etc. with our men's club logo on them. The thought is that it would be cool to wear these for home and home or other special events. Mike Corwin has done an excellent job of the design work on the logo. More information will be coming soon.

Resort Course Survey: The Resort Course has had a survey done of holes 10-15 to determine property boundaries (pink flags) and golf course easement boundaries (green flags). The survey is being used to determine location for nets and landscaping. At this time, no changes to basic structure and playability of the course is anticipated. The flags will be replaced in the near future with permanent in-ground markers.

Mike Bessonette, Golf Committee Chair
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I had a golf meeting in France over the last few weeks. You'll receive a full report in the next newsletter. In the meantime, ECMGC is on budget to allow us to fully support the remaining events scheduled for 2023. See you on the links soon!

Dave Miller ECMGC Treasurer
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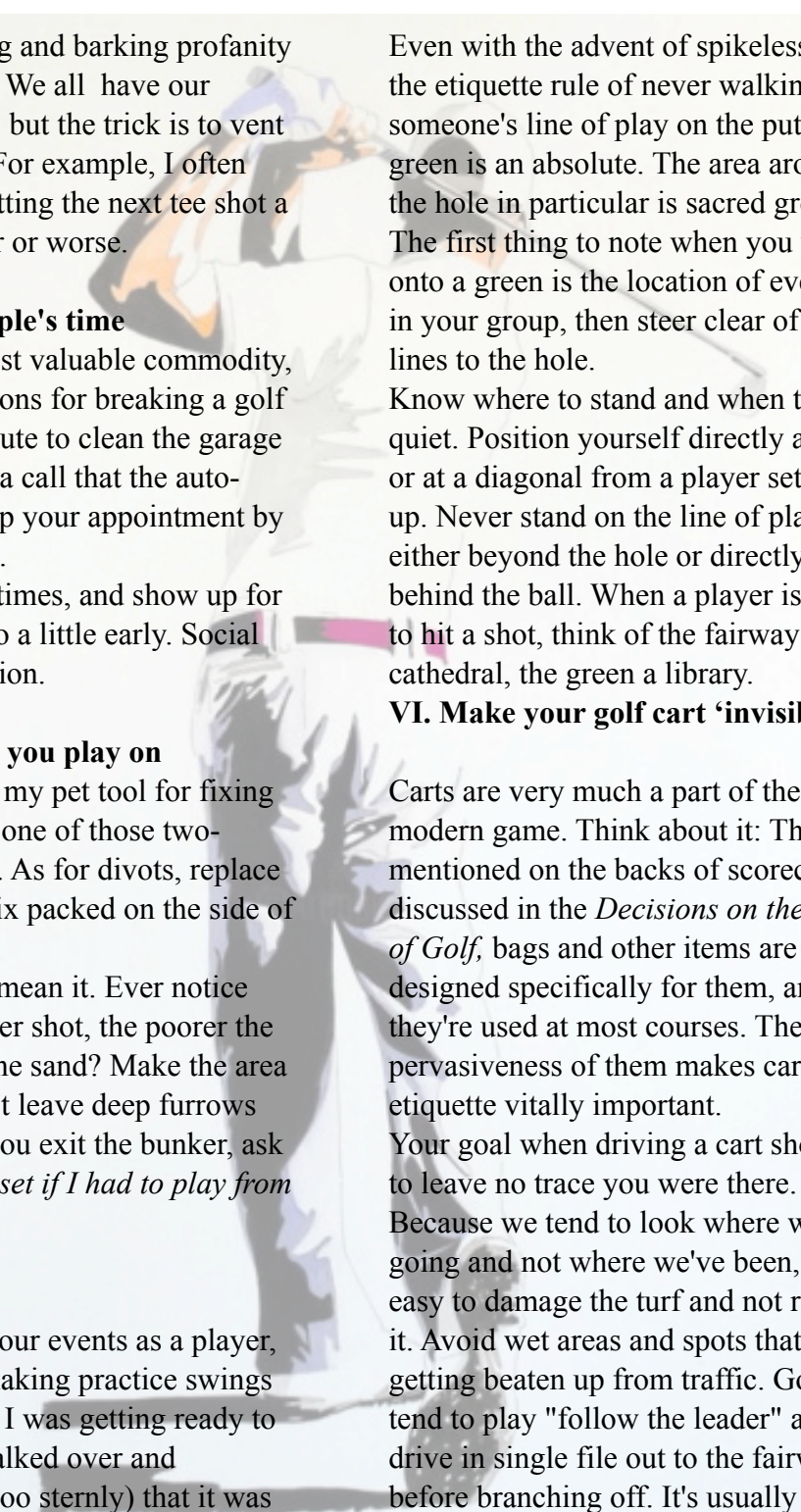
I. Don't be the slowest player

In my casual games at Bay Hill, we get around in under four hours -- and that's in fivesomes. Evaluate your pace of play honestly and often, and if you're consistently the slowest one in your group, you're a slow player, period. Encourage everyone to move quickly enough so you find right behind the group in front several times, both early and late in the round.

Remember the old staples of getting around in good time: Play "ready golf" (hit when ready, even if you aren't away) until you reach the green, be prepared to play when it's your turn on the tee and green, and never search for a lost ball for more than five minutes.

II. Keep your temper under control

In the final of the Western Pennsylvania Junior when I was 17, I let my putter fly over the gallery after missing a short putt. I won the match, but when I got in the car with my parents for the ride home, there were no congratulations, just dead silence. Eventually my father said, "If I ever see you throw a club again, you will never play in another golf tournament." That wake-up call stayed with me. I haven't thrown a club since.



Throwing clubs, sulking and barking profanity make everyone uneasy. We all have our moments of frustration, but the trick is to vent in an inoffensive way. For example, I often follow a bad hole by hitting the next tee shot a little harder -- for better or worse.

III. Respect other people's time

Because time is our most valuable commodity, there are few good reasons for breaking a golf date. Deciding last-minute to clean the garage on Saturday, or getting a call that the auto-repair shop can move up your appointment by a day, just doesn't cut it.

Always make your tee times, and show up for your lesson with the pro a little early. Social functions are no exception.

IV. Repair the ground you play on

I have a penknife that's my pet tool for fixing ball marks, but a tee or one of those two-pronged devices is fine. As for divots, replace them or use the seed mix packed on the side of your cart.

Rake bunkers like you mean it. Ever notice that the worse the bunker shot, the poorer the job a guy does raking the sand? Make the area nice and smooth -- don't leave deep furrows from the rake. Before you exit the bunker, ask yourself, *Would I be upset if I had to play from that spot?*

V. Be a silent partner

During one of my last tour events as a player, I noticed another pro making practice swings in my field of vision as I was getting ready to hit a shot. I stopped, walked over and reminded him (maybe too sternly) that it was my turn to play. The point is, stand still from the time a player sets himself until the ball has left the club.

Even with the advent of spikeless shoes, the etiquette rule of never walking in someone's line of play on the putting green is an absolute. The area around the hole in particular is sacred ground. The first thing to note when you walk onto a green is the location of every ball in your group, then steer clear of their lines to the hole.

Know where to stand and when to keep quiet. Position yourself directly across or at a diagonal from a player setting up. Never stand on the line of play, either beyond the hole or directly behind the ball. When a player is about to hit a shot, think of the fairway as a cathedral, the green a library.

VI. Make your golf cart 'invisible'

Carts are very much a part of the modern game. Think about it: They're mentioned on the backs of scorecards, discussed in the *Decisions on the Rules of Golf*, bags and other items are designed specifically for them, and they're used at most courses. The sheer pervasiveness of them makes cart etiquette vitally important.

Your goal when driving a cart should be to leave no trace you were there.

Because we tend to look where we're going and not where we've been, it's easy to damage the turf and not realize it. Avoid wet areas and spots that are getting beaten up from traffic. Golfers tend to play "follow the leader" and drive in single file out to the fairway before branching off. It's usually better to "scatter" -- everyone take a different route -- so cart traffic is spread out.

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VII. Always look your best

From Bobby Jones and Walter Hagen to Ben Hogan and Sam Snead to Tiger Woods and Phil Mickelson, the best players have been meticulous about their appearance. Their clothing has been sharp, and not one of them has shown up on the first tee with his cap backward, mud caked on his shoes, or his shirttail hanging out. (My shirt often came untucked, but it was my swing that did it. I started with it tucked in!)

Your appearance speaks volumes about you as a person, and the neatly appointed golfer, like a businessman or someone headed to church, gives the impression he thinks the golf course and the people there are special.

VIII. Turn off the cell phone

Nobody knows less about technology than I do. But I know enough to recognize a cell phone when it rings in my backswing. If I had my way, cell phones would be turned off at all times on the course, but most clubs have given in to the fact that people are going to use them. I don't know all the gadgets and settings on those phones, but do whatever you have to do to keep it quiet. And if you absolutely have to make a call, move away from the other



players. And keep the call so brief that they don't even know you made it.

IX. Lend a hand when you can

It's easy to help out your fellow players, if you just pay attention. One obvious way is looking for lost balls -- better yet, watching errant shots so they don't turn into lost balls. Pick up that extra club left on the fringe or the headcover dropped next to the tee, and return it to its owner after saying, "Nice shot!" And if you see a cart out of position or a provisional ball that needs picking up, don't just walk by.

X. Learn the little things

There are a hundred bits of etiquette I haven't mentioned, like laying the flagstick down carefully, tamping down spike marks when you're walking off a green, letting faster groups play through, and so on. All of these things are learned by observing, with a sharp eye and a considerate heart. Just know that golf has a way of returning favors, and every piece of etiquette you practice will be repaid tenfold.

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

After 3+ great years as ECMGC's Membership Chair, George Mead is moving to Henderson, NV. If you see George out on the links, thank him for his service and wish him well. Reed Sloss has taken George's place as Membership Chair. Reed also serves as the club's website manager.

Six months into our 2023 season, our membership currently stands at 94 but is growing. Last year's count peaked at 103 golfers. Recently, the club reached out to several dozen Eagle Crest *Silver Pass* golfers that had expressed interest in the club but not yet joined. Late last year, the club's board of directors produced a 2023 golf schedule that allowed for 11:00 AM tee time starts the first Wednesday of each month, March through November. Normally, silver pass golfers are restricted to Sunday through Friday tee times starting after 12 noon. However, they are allowed to play with the men's club on these special Wednesdays as well as any Wednesday during the winter when all courses go to shotgun starts. Only club members are allowed to play in two of the club's three (now four) major tournaments – Eagle Crest Cup, Match Play, Club Championship and Fall Classic. Entry Fee provisions are set up for the Fall Classic allowing silver pass golfer participation. In addition, afternoon matches were set up to allow silver pass club members to compete in Match Play (added back into our major tournament rotation this season). ECMGC currently has three silver pass club members and two of these are competing in the Match Play tournament.

As George correctly expressed in the previous "Holiday" newsletter: *"Our goal is to create an enjoyable golf atmosphere for all abilities and enhance the camaraderie among golfers during our regular Wednesday play and our different tournament formats. If you know anyone who would be interested in joining our club, please let us know."*

The club's website (<http://ecmensgolfclub.com>), which has been restored and now updated daily, is tailored for prospective, new, and existing members alike. A presentation covering access to, and navigation of the website was recently emailed to every club member. A page on the website under the menu option "Member Info" lists all golfers currently members of ECMGC with each's tee preference for play on all three of our courses. Members may change these preferences at any time by contacting [Eric Erickson](#), a member of the ECMGC's Tournament Committee. This webpage also lists whether golfers have hole-in-one insurance. Reminder: any hole-in-one made by an insured member during a Men's Day event will pay for one beer, wine or pop for every Men's Day players who are also paid members of the fund. The hole in one insurance is a onetime fee of \$15.00 that continues year after year as long as we still have funds left. Of course, if we had a flurry of hole-in-ones we might run out in which case we would all have to pay again to resupply the fund. We haven't come close in more than ten years!

Reed Sloss, Membership Chair,
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Jun 12-15	N/A	N/A		Pacific NW PGA Oregon Open	Click Here	
Jun 21	8:30 TT	10	Ridge		ILN (Flighted) Odd & Evens	R
Jun 28	8:30 TT	10	Resort		4-Man 1 LG (A&B) + 1 LN (C&D)	R
Jul 5	11:00 TT	12	Challenge		4-Man 2 NBB (Par 4s), NBB (Par 3s)	R
Jul 10	TBD SG	11	Ridge	Resort Cup #2 (Eagle Crest)	Ind Low Net—Stableford, Flighted	T
Jul 12	8:30 TT	9	Ridge		4-Man 2 NBB Stableford	R
Jul 19	8:30 TT	12	Ridge	Four Corners	4-Man 2 NBB, 3 NBB on (1,9,10,18)	R
Jul 26	8:30 TT	12	Challenge		4-Man 1-2-3, 1-2-3, ...	R
Aug 14	11:00 SG	11	Widgi Creek	Resort Cup #3 (Widgi Creek)	Ind Low Net--Stableford	T
Aug 2	TBD TT	15	Resort	EC Golf: Stroke Play Championship	Individual Gross and ILN	T
Aug 3	TBD TT	15	Ridge	EC Golf: Stroke Play Championship	Individual Gross and ILN	T
Aug 9	11:00 TT	12	Resort		2-Man NBB (Flighted) Both 9s	R
Aug 16	8:30 TT	20	Ridge		ILN (Flighted) Stableford	R
Aug 23	8:30 SG	20	Resort	Club Championship - Round 1	Medal Play (Flighted)	T
Aug 24	8:30 SG	20	Challenge	Club Championship - Round 2	Medal Play (Flighted)	R
Aug 30	8:30 SG	20	Ridge	Club Championship - Round 3	Medal Play (Flighted)	T
Sep 18	9:30 SG	11	Woodlands	Resort Cup #4 (Sunriver)	Ind Low Net--Stableford	T
Sep 6	11:00 TT	10	Ridge	Choose your own Partner	2-Man NBB (Flighted)	R
Sep 13	9:00 TT	10	Resort		4-Man 2 NBB Stableford	R
Sep 20	9:00 TT	12	Challenge	Choose your own Partner	2-Man Scramble (Flighted)	NP
Sep 27				No Men's Day		
Oct 2	10:00 SG	25	Resort	Fall Classic (Monday - Horserace)	Partners Chapman (Flighted)	NP
Oct 3	10:00 SG	25	Challenge	Fall Classic (Tuesday)	Partners Scramble (Flighted)	NP
Oct 4	10:00 SG	25	Ridge	Fall Classic + Lunch (Wednesday)	Partners NBB (Flighted)	R
Oct 12	TBD	18	Juniper	H&H @Juniper (Thursday)	2-Man NBB Nassau Match (Flighted)	R
Oct 18	10:00 TT	10	Ridge		ILN (Flighted) Stableford	R
Oct 25	10:00 TT	10	Challenge		4-Man Florida Scramble	NP
Nov 1	11:00 TT	10	Resort		Net Skins (Flighted)	R
Nov 8	11:00 B9	8	Ridge		2-Man 666 (NBB/Scramble/Chapman)	NP
Nov 15	10:00 SG	8	Challenge	Gobble Gobble Give Back	4-Man Red Tee Scramble	R
Nov 22	12:00 B9	8	Resort		ILN (Flighted) best 8 of 9 front/back	R
Nov 29	11:00 B9	8	Ridge	Score posting ends Nov. 30	4-Man 2 NBB Stableford	R
Dec 6	12:00 B9	8	Resort		4-Man 2 NBB 4 clubs + putter	NP
Dec 13	11:00 B9	8	Ridge		4-Man 2 NBB 4 Irons & Hybrids	NP