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Clubhouse 722-6268 Golf Shop 722-3357

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NEWS LETTER

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APRIL 2021
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MERCED GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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DIVISION PRESIDENT/ CAPTAIN

Doug Ash Senior President Carla Freel18-Hole Capt. Mia Quaglia 9-Hole Capt.

CLUB STAFF

Berna Lucas Club Manager David Whitby Club PRO



Hey golf fans!

Another month has passed and with it more progress toward normalcy since the onset of the pandemic. This is especially true for the club, as more members and others are being vaccinated. Over the past month a lot of good things are happening at the club. And then there is one unfortunate setback.

First the upside: The club continues to gain new members which provides stability and the opportunity to add to the clubs offerings. The Board of Directors will soon be unveiling a new members drive. Jim Abbate and his membership committee have spent many hours developing this program and I have to say I am fired up about it. They have also developed some steps that will add value to the proprietary membership option while continuing to make the executive membership option attractive. Stay tuned for further details soon.

We recently began serving hamburgers and hot dogs at the gazebo at the 10th tee box on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. I am told that this has been a great success. If you haven't tried it, give it a shot. We are expecting to re-open our indoor food and beverage as covid conditions allow.

This week we received clearance to return to pre-pandemic rules for play on the golf course. If you see Mark Pazin please be sure to give him a thumbs up for doing the work to get these rules clarified for us. We are now able to place sand bottles on the golf carts and rakes back in the bunkers. The grounds crew will also remove the styrofoam discs from around the flagsticks allowing the flagsticks to be removed. We are now allowing two riders golf carts. Please use your best judgement as to covid safety, and feel free to wear a mask if you feel the need.

The grounds maintenance crew has started fertilizing the fairways, tee boxes etc. and has aerated and sanded the greens. The golf course should soon be at its usual beautiful best. The pandemic resulted in our having to cut back on some normal Course maintenance but the Greens committee and Brightview have worked hard to bring the Course back to pre-pandemic form, and better. We should see the fruits of that labor unfolding shortly!!!

The Board is also working on a number of other improvements that we will share with you as soon as they are clarified. In the meantime, the bad news. Although there was no significant damage to the golf course, you may have noticed that the awning over the patio at the back side of the banquet room/bar was severely damaged by the recent high winds. This will result in unanticipated costs for repair. The Board is surveying options and obtaining estimates for the cost of repairs. We are also looking at options as to how best to pay for the repairs. In the meantime we appreciate your patience with the inconvenience this may cause.

Nevertheless, things are looking up at MG&CC as we move into Spring and more normal golf and social activities. The members have been awesome through this pandemic, so supportive and helpful. Last year was a struggle. This year is looking better thanks to everyone being patient and pulling together. Best regards and wishes, as always,

Phil Hamm



PRO'S CORNER David Whitby PGA Club PRO

Upcoming Golf Events

The Pro Shop would like to remind everyone of our upcoming events in April and May. If you would like to participate in any tournament please contact the Pro Shop to sign up

Denim jeans are not permissible after March 31st. You may now ride two to a golf cart. Rakes will now be in the bunkers

- **April 10th** NCGA 4 Ball Net Qualifier 8:30am T/ Times. The format is best ball of the twosome. Teams must be within 8 strokes of each other. Players with a handicap index of 18.5 or higher are eligible, but must play to an index of 18.4.
- **April 17**th- MGCC Junior Tournament-1:00pm start (contact the Pro Shop for details)
- May 31st- Memorial Day- 666 Razzle 9:00am

June 1st, Tuesday - Closed in observance of Memorial Day

Congratulations to the NCGA Zone qualifiers

Matt McAuley Keith Hunter Corbett Browning Tanner Browning They will represent Merced GCC in the Regionals held at Carmel Valley Ranch and Poppy Hills.

<u>REMINDERS:</u> Please repair your divots and repair your ball mark on the green.



Happy spring everyone! Don't forget to sign up for a fun day playing with the Niners and the Seniors on April 8th.



GENTLEMEN, the LADIES are hosting a SCRAMBLE APRIL 8th. Signup in the locker room.



18-Hole Ladies Division Captain's Table By: Carla Freel

Our Women's 18 Hole Division is looking forward to spring golf and a lovely April.

We will be playing a fun scramble with the Senior Men and the nine-tee-niners on April 8.

April 22 we will have a guest day and April 29 will be our annual Grandmothers tournament.

Sign up for these fun events in the locker room.



Let's give a warm welcome to five new members and one returning member.

Karl Montague is a new Young Executive member. He grew up in El Nido and is current teaching AG at Golden Valley High School. Special thanks to Rick Smiley, Robbie Ferreria and Rod Ivy for convincing Karl to join our club.

Rudy Flores is retired for the California Youth Authority. He and his wife Tina have three daughters and he already knows several of our members. A little-known fact: Rudy is Andrew (The kid) Curiel's Godfather, so if anyone needs a favor, you know who to ask.

Matthew Rosson and his wife Kacy join our club along with their three kids, Madilyn, Paire and Conor. If the name sounds familiar, it should, current member Josh Rosson is. Thanks to Josh for bringing his brother to our club.

Frank Andrade has joined as a Young Executive member. Frank works as a Pest Control Advisor for Nutrition Ag Services. Raised in Gustine, he graduated from Cal State Fresno. Frank's fiancé, Madison teaches in the Ag Program at Golden Valley High School. Members Karl Montague, Ralph and Phil Fagundes are responsible for encouraging Frank to join.

Kyle Allen, his wife Tracy and their three children are new Executive Members. Sons Rowan and Hudson are taking lessons from our Pro David Whitby. Three year old Emersyn will wait a few years before starting. Kyle is a financial advisor with Cardinal Financial and co-owns a business in Idaho. Kyle has joined upon the recommendations of Pierre Perret, Kevin Gremillion, Ted Dietz Jr and Justin Parle – Thanks guys!

Lastly, I'd like to reintroduce **John Huie** back to our club. The kids are a little older now and his wife Suzie doesn't want him hanging around the house all day on the weekends, se he's come back. Great to have you back John.

Please take a few minutes to greet our new members when you see them on the course.

Wed Sun Mon Tue Thu Fri Sat 2 18 Hole 3 NCGA 1 Women's DIV 4-BALL 9:00am Shotgun Tournament 8:30am T-Times 9 5 6 9-T-9ers 7 8 18 Hole 10 Women's DIV Back 9 Club 9:00am Shotgun 9:00am Closed Host Seniors and Niners Shotgun 12 16 11 13 9-T-9ers 14 15 18 Hole 17 Women's DIV Front 9 9:00am 9:00am Shotgun Club Shotgun Closed 18 19 18 Hole 20 9-T-9ers 21 22 24 23 Women's DIV Front 9 Club 9:00am Shotgun GUEST DAY 9:00am Closed Shotgun MGCC Putting League 25 26 27 9-T-9ers 28 2918 Hole 30 Women's DIV Back 9 Club 9:00am Shotgun 9:00am Grandmothers Closed Shotgun Tournament 6:00pm MGCC Board MTG

Pro Shop Hours of Operation: March - September 2021

PRO SHOP Hours of Operation: 7:00am - 6:00pm Driving Range Summer Hours: 6:30am - 7:00pm Tuesdays to Saturdays 6:30am - 5:30pm, Sunday Only (closes early for range clean pick) Golf Carts: MGCC golf carts have to be returned by 7:30pm All private carts have to be returned by 8:00pm

Please check in the Pro Shop before you tee off

