



# Chip Shots

Clubhouse 722-6268  
Golf Shop 722-3357

1926

Volume 19, Issue 1

NEWS LETTER

FEBRUARY 2021

## MERCED GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### PHIL HAMM

President

### ANDREW CURIEL

Vice President,  
Human Resources

### LARRY THOMPSON

Finance

### BRIAN FUENTES

Golf Operations

### JIM ABBATE

Membership

### JACK MOREHOUSE

House  
Bylaws & Procedures

### ROBBIE THOMPSON

Long Range Planning  
Bylaws & Procedures

### GERALD CORMAN

Social

### TIM PELLISSIER

Greens

### OFFICERS

### Rickey Wallace

Secretary

### Scott Lucas

Finance Liaison

### DIVISION PRESIDENT/ CAPTAIN

Doug Ash . . . . Senior President  
Carla Freel . . . . .18-Hole Capt.  
Mia Quaglia . . . . .9-Hole Capt.

### CLUB STAFF

Berna Lucas . . . . . Club Manager  
David Whitby . . . . . Club PRO

# NOTES from the President

Hey golf fans, the Chipshots is back after an unscheduled hiatus due to disruptions caused by the pandemic. We are starting with this issue in condensed form but expect to expand the format as conditions allow. In the meantime, all will agree that it has been an extraordinary year. The pandemic briefly threatened the very existence of the club. But the members and the Board stepped up, made difficult adjustments and more than survived.

We continue to enjoy the golf course with only minor inconveniences. We have recently re-opened the patio area for drinks and snacks. The club continues to manage the financial challenges that so many businesses have struggled with. We have a steady flow of new members.

The health and safety of members, guests, and employees is of utmost importance, especially during this pandemic. Although the restrictions necessitated by the pandemic have been annoying and occasionally unpleasant, we have had no known COVID infections in members or staff that were caused by close contact at the club. Our COVID safety measures have been effective. While the Board is laser focused on keeping the number of infections at zero, we are also committed to returning to normal functioning as soon as possible, within the legal constraints required by State and local authorities. This balance is important inasmuch as we appear to be seeing the light at the end of the tunnel with the rollout of the COVID vaccine. Avoiding an outbreak at this point will allow us to resume normal activities faster and more efficiently.

Our golf course has held up very well given the reduction of course maintenance staff, which allowed a substantial reduction of costs. Nevertheless, we are experiencing some normal seasonal thinning of grass in some areas of the fairways. Please honor the recent Board request to use the H-System when using electric carts. This should reduce wear and tear on the turf.

As we look forward to a better year, I want to again thank everyone for your commitment and generosity. I believe that the club is a valuable resource for our community. Keeping the club viable, indeed vibrant, makes Merced a better place to live. The success of the club strengthens the fabric of community. And our success depends on the wellbeing of all of us. Stay safe!

Phil Hamm

## PRO'S CORNER

David Whitby  
PGA Club PRO

Pro Shop: Hours of Operation/March 7:00am - 5:00pm  
Driving Range: Hours of Operation 7:00am - 5:00pm  
*Please check in the Pro Shop before you tee off*



We are looking forward to a fresh start in 2021. So stop by the Pro Shop and pick up a copy of the 2021 Tournament schedule.

When driving golf carts on the course. We ask you to observe the 90 degree rule. Please drive your golf cart in the rough and not in the fairway.

Reminders: Please repair your ball marks on the green.

Please fill your divots with sand.

If you have any questions or concerns, please ask!



## 18-Hole Ladies Division

Captain's Table  
Carla Freel

Our 18 hole ladies are excited about our Feb 4 yearly kick off. We will have a grab and go morning with donuts, coffee, or tea starting at 8:15am. We will also be handing out our new 2021 yearbook.

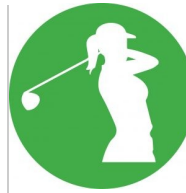
Golf will begin at 9:00 with a 1 Best Ball format. If any 18 hole women have not signed up yet, please sign up in the locker room or pro shop.

Hopefully the Merced Golf and Country Club women will be able to resume the Women's Putting League as soon as we can gather for lunch. This fun league is open to all women members both past and present.

Look for sign ups in the locker room.

### Our 2021 Officers

Captain - Carla Freel  
Co Captain / Tournament Chair Linda Lucas  
Assistant Tournament Chair Veronica Curiel  
Secretary Maureen Buchner  
Treasurer Frankie Spiva  
Handicap Chairperson Denise Davis  
Parliamentarian Sharon Sanchez



## 9t9ers

ARTICLE BY:  
Mia Quaglia

What a crazy 2020 golf season.....that is behind us and now we are reviving up for a fun and exciting 2021!

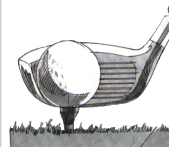
I want to thank our 9ers for agreeing to take on their responsibilities. It takes each of us to make a successful season.

### Our 2021 Officers

Captain:	Mia Quaglia
Co-Captain:	Susan Benes
Secretary:	Patty Beach
Treasurer:	Carole Whitehill
Special Tournaments:	Joanne Tinetti, Kelly Bentz
Handicapper:	Nancy Slater
Open Day:	Susan Benes

We are thrilled to be starting this year with 4 new members! We survived 2020 and came back strong!!

Positive thoughts to you  
and yours.



## Senior Division

### Plan "B" for Merced Seniors ...

The Merced Seniors 2021 Season will be different! Although we have some matches scheduled with other clubs, we may, or may not, be able to play them. To take up the slack, the Seniors will hold Wednesday AM games. The more the interest, the more often we will play.

### 2021 Dues

\$0.00 if were a Senior Member in 2020.  
\$10.00 if you were not a Member in 2020.

For Questions call: Doug Ash 761-0803

Danny Moak  
Golf Course Superintendent








Well, where do I begin? It has been a very different and challenging year. We have been doing our best to produce a quality golf course with our limited staff. Now that we are in the slower time of year we have been able to perform some of the tasks that we were unable to do during the summer. In the last month we have been able to paint the tee markers, trim the shrubs around the club house, as well as some of the ones on the golf course. We have also been able to do a little bit of work in the bunkers. I have been in constant communication with Walt so that we can develop a schedule with items that have come up from membership. We will do everything that we can to continue making progress on the course.



# February 2021



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 <i>Club Closed</i>	2 <u>9-T-9ers</u> Front 9 9:00am Shotgun	3	4 <u>18 Hole Women's DIV</u> Golf Kick-off 8:15am Breakfast 9:00am Shotgun	5	6
7	8 <i>Club Closed</i>	9 <u>9-T-9ers</u> Back 9 9:00am Shotgun	10	11 <u>18 Hole Women's DIV</u> 9:00am Shotgun 18-hole DIV General Mtg.	12	13
14  <b>Valentines Day</b>	15  <b>PRESIDENT'S Day</b> Open Play	16 <i>Club Closed</i>  18-Hole DIV Board Meeting	17	18 <u>18 Hole Women's DIV</u> 9:00am Shotgun	19 <u>9-T-9ers</u> Front 9 9:00am Shotgun	20
21	22 <i>Club Closed</i>	23 <u>9-T-9ers</u> Back 9 9:00am SG Low Net/ Low Putts Guest /Mtg Day  6:00pm MGCC Board MTC	24	25 <u>18 Hole Women's DIV</u> 9:00am Shotgun	26	27
28	March 13th  <b>Demo Day</b>  					

*The community Covid 19 vaccines program is underway to getting us closer to be able to do social dining again. Any social gatherings will commence based on safety regulations set forth by the Merced County Health Dept.*



# LOOKING AHEAD



- Mar 2 9-T-Niners (Front 9)  
9:00am Tee Times
- Mar 4 18-Hole Ladies Division  
9:00 Shotgun
- Mar 6 NCGA Zone  
9:00am Tee Times
- Mar 9 9-T-Niners (Back 9)  
9:00am Tee Times
- Mar 10 Men's Stag  
*TO BE ANNOUNCED*
- Mar 11 18-Hole Ladies Division  
9:00 Shotgun
- Mar 13  Demo Day  
9:00am -3:00pm
- Mar 16 9-T-Niners (Front 9)
-  Mar 17 **St. Patrick's Day**
- Mar 18 18-Hole Ladies Division  
9:00 Shotgun
- Mar 23 9-T-Niners (Back 9)  
9:00 Shotgun
- Mar 25 18-Hole Ladies Division  
9:00 Shotgun
- Mar 28 Aerate Greens #1 Hole closed  
@2pm
- Mar 30 9-T-Niners (Back 9)  
9:00 Shotgun  
6:00pm MGCC Board Meeting

## MERCED GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB DRESS CODE

### CLUBHOUSE & DINING ROOM

All members and guests are required to adhere to Merced Country Club's Dress Code when in the club. These general guidelines apply for adults and children above the age of five. The dress code is listed below:

Jackets maybe required for more formal events. Women are requested to dress in a fashion compatible with the dress required of men, which may include dresses, skirts, slacks or pantsuits.

Typical golf attire; and clean, comfortable attire are encouraged at all times. Ladies may wear sleeveless shirts that have a collar; or a non collared shirt with sleeves. Men's Golf attire, blue denim clothing and blue denim jeans in good, clean condition are acceptable attire in the Bar, Dining Room, Patio, Pool, Parking Lot, Pro Shop, Locker Rooms and Club Offices .

NO BLUE DENIM JEANS are allowed on the Golf Course, Putting Green, Driving Range, and Practice Facility.

The following attire is NOT allowed in the **Clubhouse** (Including the Dining Room, Bar and Banquet Room), on the **Golf Course or Driving Range**

- Shorts, skorts or skirts higher than 4" above the knee
- T-Shirts or Tank Tops; Gym Shorts or any other Gym attire.
- Overalls; cut-offs; clothes with frayed edges or holes
- Swimsuits or Swimwear of any kind; wet or soiled clothing
- Trousers, or other types of clothing that clearly are extreme in size and that cause the clothing item to hang loosely from the body, or that may expose areas of the body or visible undergarments, are prohibited.
- Tops exposing the mid-sections or other areas of the body are not acceptable.

Exceptions to the dress code will be: Attire worn for Theme Parties and other designated events which the general Manager must approve prior to the events.

Wearing appropriate blue denim will be permitted on the golf course although not encouraged, from November 1 through March 31.

#### **Other Restrictions to: Bar, Dining Room, and Banquet Rooms**

- Hats/caps for gentlemen are not permitted in the dining room except as traditional religious, ethnic, or medical head covering. Hats/caps must be worn facing forward. It is appropriate etiquette for gentlemen to remove hats while indoors.
- Shoes and/or sandals must be worn at all times.
- Soft spikes are not permitted in the Dining Room.

Thank you for your compliance.

#### MEMBERSHIP COUNT

Playing . . . . .	153
Pre-Paid Program . . . . .	1
Associate Firm . . . . .	5
Leave of Absence . . . . .	5
Special Social . . . . .	28
Honorary . . . . .	0
Social . . . . .	0
Social/Proprietary . . . . .	1
Executive Membership. . .	118
Young Executive . . . . .	<u>12</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>323</b>

