



www.mercedgcc.com

Merced Golf & Country Club  
6333 North Golf Road  
Merced, CA 95340

# Chip Shots



Clubhouse (209) 722-6268  
Golf Shop (209) 722-3357

1926

Volume 22, Issue 2

NEWS LETTER

FEBRUARY 2024

**MERCED GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB**  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**SAM TACKE**  
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**RUSSELL MARKS**  
Vice President, House

**JEFF SWEET**  
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**JILL MACHA**  
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**TIM ARNSBERG**  
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**PAUL LEONARDO III**  
Greens

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Social

**ANDREW CURIEL IV**  
Finance

**Carm McKee**  
Secretary

**Avis Gaffery**  
Treasurer

**DIVISION PRESIDENT/  
CAPTAINS**

**Patrick Dillon**  
Senior President

**Jill Macha**  
18-Hole Capt.

**Nancy Slater**  
9-Hole Capt.

**CLUB STAFF**

Andy Aubertin . . . . . Club Pro  
Meg Borges . . . . . Food/Beverage  
Manager  
Gilbert Rios . . . . . Club Chef

## NOTES from the President



Happy New Year to all our members. Here's hoping 2024 is a successful and prosperous year for all of you and MGCC.

Let me start by offering my heartfelt thanks to my predecessor Andrew Curiel. He has done a wonderful job of guiding the Club through a difficult 2 years and has hopefully put us in a position for smoother sailing this year. I want to also thank our outgoing board members, Robbie Thompson and Rick Smiley. Their input has been valuable and I'm confident we will occasionally continue to call upon them in the future. Congratulations to our new board members and thanks also to everyone who volunteered to run for the board.

We have a very ambitious agenda for 2024. Keeping our aging golf course operational and moving forward, while controlling expenses, is our first priority. Increasing our revenue is the other priority. We intend to continue to try and build membership. We also intend to maximize the use of the clubhouse and the golf course. Some changes will be necessary, but we will be mindful that our Club is for its members first. With that in mind, please consider spending some of your restaurant budget out here. Two big events in February are a Crab Feast and the Valentine's Day Dinner. Guests are always welcome.

Have fun golfing in the mud this month. Remember we need the rain!

*Sam Tacke*

President





## PRO'S CORNER

Andy Aubertin  
PGA Club PRO

Hello All!

It is hard to believe the New Year is upon us already! Once again we have a wet start to the year, this sometimes requires us to keep the carts on the path and close the driving range when turf conditions are too wet. When we do allow carts off the path it is best to use the 90 degree rule when entering and exiting the fairway and/or just keeping the carts in the rough or longer grass to lessen the impact on the fairways. As always, please sand your divots and fix your ball marks even in these soggy conditions.

### Pro Tip:

This month's tip is simple and can go a long way to improving your game and get your swing going in the right direction. Alignment is key in every shot we take. An easy way to make sure you are lined up to your target is to pick a spot about 6 inches to a foot in front of your ball, i.e. a piece of grass, a leaf or a divot, then line your clubface up to that intermediate target, from there take your stance appropriately. Now when you are in proper alignment, have confidence, take one look at your target and swing away!



## 18-Hole Ladies Division

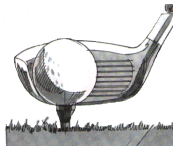
Captain's Table  
By: Jill Macha

Welcome back everyone! Let the fun begin! Our ladies Kick Off Breakfast is scheduled for 8:00 on Thursday February 1st, with our weekly tournaments for the golf year starting at 9:00am. We'll be playing a 1 Best Ball from the gold tees format. That sounds like a great way to begin, low stress and pretty straightforward. Yearly calendars will be handed out during breakfast, but if you miss breakfast I'm sure you can get one after. I'm definitely looking forward to the socializing, competitiveness and a little exercise.

I'd like to extend a special warm welcome to Lori Suffecool who has joined our group. Lori is fun to play with, has a great attitude and a contagious laugh. Make sure to get a game with Lori, you won't be disappointed.

Spring Ec will begin on February 15th, so if you're interested in participating please get your \$5.00 turned in to Linda Smith prior to that time. Also, our first General Meeting will be held that day. If you'd like anything on the agenda please let me know by February 12th so I can bring it to the Ladies Board prior to that time.

I'm looking forward to a great year, filled with joy and laughter, fun filled events and hopefully some great rounds of golf. Bam, we're off! Let the games begin!



## Senior Division

By: Patrick Dillon

The Seniors put a bow on 2023 with the end of the season dinner on January 20. Over 30 members and guests were able to make it to the dinner. Special thanks to chef Gilbert, Megan, and the wait staff for a great meal and super service. Thanks also to John Laughlin for the benediction and Ed Benes for the song parodies. It was great to see everyone: Ross Cruickshanks and his new hip and Brian Parker in the biggest battle of his life against cancer. Prayers to all.

Looking ahead to 2024, the schedule and member signup sheets are posted in the locker room. Make sure you add your email so I can get you on my contact list. The sooner the better with the first event scheduled for April 3 at Turlock. Individual event signup sheets will start to be posted around March. That's it for now.



## 9t9ers

ARTICLE by: Nancy Slater





The Nine-Tee-Niners are excited for our 2024 season. We have plans for fun games and tournaments including several Guest Days - an opportunity to invite friends and family to play. We will have the chance to help introduce our group to other lady golfers who may be interested in joining. Three Couples Socials will bring us together with our partners and friends for some fun golf and social time.

In February, we are scheduled to play on the 6th and 13th. The club will be open on Monday the 19th and closed on the 20th in honor of Presidents Day. The Niners will play on Friday the 23rd. Our meeting day will fall on Tuesday the 27th featuring our first Low Net/Low Putts event of 2024.

I've been thinking about how lucky I am to be a part of this great group of golfers. We are all different - ages, abilities, attitudes - and we are so alike. We each play as often as we can. We want to improve our games and we are able to laugh at ourselves and with our playing partners. I look forward to each outing with my golfing friends.



# February 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 Ladies' 18-hole DIV Golf Kick-off 8:00am Breakfast 9:00am Tee Time	2 PRIVATE PARTY	3 PRIVATE PARTY
4	5 Club Closed	6 9-T-9ers Front 9 9:00am Tee Time	7	8 Ladies' 18-hole DIV 9:00am Tee Time	9 PRIVATE PARTY	10  Crab Feast 6:00pm
11	12 Club Closed	13 9-T-9ers Back 9 9:00am Tee Time Mardi Gras	14  Valentine's Day Dinner 6pm (start of seating)	15 Ladies' 18-hole DIV 9:00am Tee Time General Meeting	16	17
18	19  Presidents' DAY OPEN PLAY	20 Club Closed	21	22 Ladies' 18-hole DIV 9:00am Tee Time	23 9-T-9ers Front 9 9:00am T-Time	24
25	26 Club Closed	27 9-T-9ers Back 9 9:00am Tee Time Meeting Day  6:00pm MGCC Board MTG	28	29 Ladies' 18-hole DIV 9:00am Tee Time		

## PRO SHOP HOURS OF OPERATION

eff: NOVEMBER 2023

PRO SHOP Hours of Operation:

Tuesday to Sunday 7:00am - 5:00pm

Driving Range Winter Hours:

Tuesday 8am - 5:00pm

Wednesday thru Saturday 6am - 5:00pm

Sunday 6:00am - 3:00pm

Golf Carts: Please return golf carts by 5:00pm

*As always . . . Please check in the Pro Shop before you tee off and SIGN OUT KEYS FOR GOLF CARTS*

REMINDERS: Please follow course rules (especially this winter),

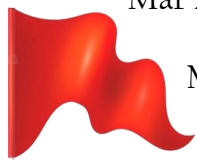
Repair your divots and repair your ball mark on the green.



# LOOKING AHEAD



- Mar 2-3 *NCGA Zone*  
9:00am T-Times
- Mar 2 *Frenchmen's Night*  
6:00pm
- Mar 5 9-T-Niners (Front 9)  
9:00am Shotgun
- Mar 7 18-Hole Ladies Division  
9:00 Shotgun
- Mar 12 9-T-Niners (Back 9)  
9:00 Shotgun
- Mar 14 18-Hole Ladies Division  
9:00 Shotgun
- Mar 16 *St. Patrick's Day Dinner*  
6:00pm
- Mar 19 9-T-Niners (Front 9)  
9:00 Shotgun
- Mar 21 18-Hole Ladies Division  
9:00 Shotgun
- Mar 22 NCGA Super Seniors  
Tournament  
Open Day-Ladies Tournament
- Mar 25 -26 Club Closed  
Aerate Greens
- Mar 27 9-T-Niners (Back 9)  
9:00 Shotgun  
Meeting Day  
6:00pm MGCC Board Meeting
- Mar 28 18-Hole Ladies Division  
9:00 Shotgun
- Mar 29 CAL Fire
- Mar 31 EASTER BRUNCH



## 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 mid-thigh.
- 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

Associate Firm . . . . .	10
Discovery . . . . .	11
Executive Membership. . . . .	98
Playing . . . . .	156
Regular Firm. . . . .	7
Social/Proprietary . . . . .	1
Special Social . . . . .	26
Leave of Absence . . . . .	5
Young Executive . . . . .	19
Young Professional . . . . .	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>337</b>



# CRAB FEAST

FEBRUARY 10  
6 PM @ MGCC

Please RSVP  
to the office  
(209) 722-6268  
by  
Feb. 7th, 2024



# Valentine's Day Dinner

February 14th, 2024  
Dinner 6pm (start of seating)

Please RSVP to the office  
(209) 722-6268  
by Feb. 11th, 2024