



Sinking Valley Country Club

Newsletter April 2010



From The President

Welcome,

As president of SVCC, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome all of our new 2010 members and welcome back our returning members.

While the 2010 golf season has already begun, preparations for the season began long ago. Members and green fee players alike will notice several improvements to the course for 2010. Among these improvements are the opening of new back tees on holes 9 and 18. Coming soon are new red and gold tees for our seniors and ladies. Also trees have been removed, on several holes, to improve play ability and turf conditions.

In 2010 our golf shop has scheduled many events for members and guests; including the Tuesday night league, senior scrambles, couples events, couples and kids events, free lesson Mondays, junior clinics as well as various weekend special events.

The open to the public Bogey Bar'n Grill will continue to serve all of your food and beverage needs. Be sure to **check out the new menu items and daily specials.**

While all of us continue to enjoy playing golf, it is no secret that factors such as declining population and difficult economic times have taken their toll on golf courses both locally and nationally. **Please let me assure you that SVCC remains a solvent and viable facility.** We continue to meet all obligations and reduce our debt. In comparison to other facilities SVCC is fortunate to have lower debt than most. We diligently work to control spending and work with in our budget to **assure a bright future for SVCC.**

Having said this we would encourage all members to bring guests, promote new memberships and help attract new outings to SVCC, every little bit helps! **Please support your club!**

In 2010 SVCC is considering a new lifetime member program. If you have an interest in this program please inform the golf shop. Again thank you for your support and patronage. See you on the course!

Steve Turiano

President SVCC

The Sinking valley C.C. Board of Directors has approved a new policy guide for Members and guests

Please pick up your copy in the golf shop

From the Golf Shop

Hello from all of us in the golf shop!

Now that the golf course is open, we are looking forward to seeing all of you very soon!

As always, spring is a busy time of year at Sinking Valley and this year is no exception. This spring schedule is highlighted by the start of the Tuesday Night League on April 20th and our first Couple Event of 2010 on April 25th. Mays schedule includes the Central Counties 2Ball Championship on May 1st and 2nd. Ladies opening day may 8th and our own Spring Championship and Flight Tournament on May 15th and 16th. Among other dates to remember in 2010 are the 2Ball Tournament July 9th, 10th, and 11th, the Member Guest on August 14th and 15th and Championship weekend August 28th and 29th (Championship and First flight also play on August 21st and 22nd). A new event for 2010 is Couples and Kids, which should prove to be fun for the whole family. Remember to pick up monthly event sheets from the golf shop for dates and times for all events and outings at S.V.C.C.

Already we have booked 26 exchange days for our members to enjoy and more are yet to come.

For our members in 2010 any guest who plays with a member will pay only \$30.00 on weekdays and \$35.00 on weekends.

Again in 2010 S.V.C.C. will be offering items for sale in the Centre Daily Times through an online auction, beginning April. 18 Please encourage your friends and family to bid on these items as any funds generated will be used for advertising S.V.C.C. in the Centre Daily Times.

Arriving in the pro shop this spring will be new club lines for 2010, including drivers from Titleist, Cobra, Ping, Taylormade, Nike, and others. We will have plenty of demos for everyone to try. Spring is also a great time to be custom fitted for irons, putters, and even drivers, your clothes all fit so should your clubs!

This year we would like to see more of our members and guest alike to **register for Ghin U.S.G.A. handicaps.** Having a handicap is a must for events at many clubs and the more people we have with handicaps the better our events at Sinking Valley will be.

Remember in addition to handicap fees, club storage and locker fees as well as any outstanding stock payments are now due. Should you have any questions or ideas for events or outings please stop in the golf shop and let us know! **Please note our new address at Sinking Valley.**

Hope to see you soon!

Dave

From the Maintenance Dept.

“Humanizing Turf”

Your thinking has this guy lost his mind. I have told many people over the years, including some of you, that there are many similarities between managing turf and taking care of yourself. I have come up with six practices we do on the golf course that are closely related to everyday human activity.

Mowing: For most everyone out there we get a haircut once a month. We cut greens everyday-- tees, approaches, and fairways three days a week, and rough one time a week. Sharp blades, just like sharp scissors used to make a great haircut, create a nice crisp cut that leads to healthier turf. **Water:** Humans can only go about 48 hrs without water. Turf with an extensive root system can go longer. Although turf, just like humans, can be dehydrated at a much faster pace when put under tough physical conditions. For example: lots of play, cart traffic, improper mowing techniques, and misapplication of fertilizer and pesticides.

Food: I would rank nitrogen the "big juicy steak" of turf. By far, nitrogen is your # 1 nutrient in turf, but just like steak in humans, too much nitrogen can make it fat and unhealthy. The addition of too much nitrogen to turf leads to disease problems, just like eating too many juicy steaks can lead to heart disease in humans. In turf, we go out and spray fungicides to combat disease, while humans go to the doctor for heart disease medication.

Lets get healthy: We all have been told to exercise and lose weight at one time or another. We as humans go to the gym or try to eat better to lose weight. **In turf, verticutting and dethatching are mechanical ways to get unwanted “fat” out of the turf and make it leaner, meaner, and healthier.**

Light: As winter is winding down and spring is upon us, many of us are feeling more chipper because the days are getting longer. The winter months in PA are long with many cloudy days leading many of us to feel down and unproductive because of the limited amount of sunshine. Turf is no different than us when it comes to the lack of light. **Too much shade in turf leads to thinning density and shallow rooting.** Just like in humans, the turf feels less vibrant and unhappy.

Oxygen: People always ask me, “Why do you aerify”? Humans can go about seven minutes without oxygen until death. So how do you think the roots feel underneath the ground when they are deprived of oxygen? Aerification allows much needed oxygen, water, and nutrients to the roots so they can breath. The next time you’re having a bad day and feel like your getting run over and stepped on, **just think how a grass plant feels when it sees a cart tire or mower getting ready to run over it**

Neil Gartland-

Golf Course Superintendent

From the Ladies

Sinking Valley Ladies’ Golf Association will **begin the season with a brunch at the clubhouse on Saturday, May 8. A scramble will be held immediately following the brunch.**

The regular Ladies’ League will again be on Thursdays starting May 13th. Most of the events will be “play on your own” (details for each event will be posted in advance at the course).

Late afternoon scrambles are scheduled for June 24th, July 16th, August 5th, and August 19th. The “late afternoon scrambles” will be open to non-members of Sinking Valley as well.

Contact persons for the association are Sherry Harrison, Linda Derman, Anna Myers, and Jean Kelly.

From The House Committee

After a snowy, miserable winter, the members of the House Committee and the Board of Directors, welcome all new and past members to the 2010 Golf Season.

We invite and encourage members and guests to use our facilities. We are a public facility so invite your friends.

Karen and Dan Nardoza and their capable staff are back again to prepare and serve their products. Stop by and say hello.

We look forward to your support which will help your club have a successful year.

Have a great golf year! See you in the "Barn".

Sinking Valley’s New Address

595 Golf Course Road

Altoona, Pa. 16601

814 684-0662 fax 814 684-3385

www.sinkingvalley.com

Have A great 2010