

Volume 12 No 10 Lincoln Hills Men's Golf Club

**OCT 2015** 

Check us out on the Web at www.lhmgc.org

### **President's Report**



#### By Rodger Oswald

While it has been awhile since I have played in the Sweeps on Tuesday mornings, I have been able to play three times in the last month or so. It was quite enlightening. While the Pro Shop administers this weekly tournament, I would say our Men's Club makes up about 75% or more of the players. I am also aware that there are groups within the group as some of our members have a "game within the game." However, not everyone is in one of those groups and, therefore, a problem has emerged.

During the three times I have played I have witnessed the following: 1. Putts being conceded that are way beyond generous. When others are playing according to the Sweeps Rules of putting out, those people are at a distinct disadvantage. For the sake of equitable play, putts should be holed. 2. Not everyone seems to understand how to play a "lost ball." If you lose your ball, you must return to the site of your previous shot and hit from that original spot. This is a stroke and distance penalty (play out the hole with your second shot and add 2 strokes). 3. Some players do not understand how to administer a ball in a water hazard or open space. Water hazards can be yellow stakes or lateral water hazards with red stakes (which includes open space). Please consult the rules regarding how to play these situations, as well as how to implement penalty strokes. Again, equitable play really demands that we all play by the same rules and affix the same number of penalty strokes. 4. At no time is a mulligan (second chance) permitted – on the tee, in the fairway or on the green. 5. At no time can you improve your lie by pounding/stepping on the ground behind your ball.

If you do not want to play by these rules, that is your prerogative; however, you need to disqualify yourself from the Sweeps competition. Simply line your name and score out on the scorecard and mark a DQ by your gross score. The Pro Shop is aware of these violations and is preparing a rules sheet so that all of us are "on the same page." I do realize some golfers simply

want to play a "social" game of golf without worrying about rules. That, too, is your prerogative, but as previously stated, you need to DQ yourself so that you do not gain an advantage over those who are playing by the rules.

Thank you

The next COURSE CARE meeting with the Billy Casper Golf group will be at the end of October. If anyone has issues they would like presented to Ryan Peterson (Director of Golf), Jason Wolff (Course Superintendent) and/or Jason Koskela (Head Pro), please email those concerns to Rodger Oswald @rodgeroswald@gmail.com.

Rules

#### Etiquette Tip of the Month: Record Your Score Away from the Green

When you are the scorekeeper and typically the driver of one of the carts, you should record your scores <u>away from the green</u> to ensure speed of play and show courtesy to the group behind you.

That group will be interested in teeing off as soon as you finish the hole. If they notice you hanging around green and are concerned about hitting you – as they should be – then they must wait until you have cleare the area. This wait, multiplied by 18 holes, definitely would add time to their total round. It also would increate the time for you to complete your round, since the other players in your foursome would be waiting for you the next tee.

There is a safety issue here, too. If you are sitting in your cart, recording scores next to the green, the following group might hit you while teeing off. You and your cart partner should leave the area around the green as soon as possible. Drive to the next tee so that your group can start teeing off. Record the group's scores as you wait your turn.

#### Rule of the Month: Rule: 25-1b Abnormal Ground Condition. Place or Drop the Ball?

During a friendly match, my opponent hit his drive into a bunker that had some water in it. Although his bal was on very moist sand, he had a good lie. In trying to decide whether to take relief from casual water, he asked me, "May I place the ball, or must I drop it?" When I told him I thought he had to drop it, he feared dropping the ball might plug, so he decided to hit the ball as it lay.

This situation got me thinking, was he even entitled to relief and what were his options if he were? Is soft, mushy earth considered to be casual water? In the Decisions Book, 25-1, the answer is NO. "Soft, mushy earth is not casual water unless water is visible on the surface before or after the player takes his stance."

Assuming my opponent was entitled, he could drop his ball "without penalty, within one club-length of and nearer the hole than the nearest point of relief." But because he was in a bunker, the ball would have to be dropped in the bunker. If the bunker is so full of water that he cannot find complete relief, then he can seek maximum available relief by dropping his ball as near as possible to the spot where the ball lies (without regard to the one club-length restriction), but not nearer the hole. The ball might still be in some water or a very wet spot within the bunker. If that is not satisfactory to the player, he could "under penalty of one strok drop his ball outside the bunker, keeping the point where the ball lay directly between the hole and the spo on which the ball is dropped, with no limit to how far behind the bunker the ball may be dropped.

#### Yellow Water Hazard

Option 1 – Play it from the hazard

Option 2 – Replay the shot from the original position incurring a stroke and distance penalty

Option 3 – Draw a line from the hole to where the ball last crossed the margin of the hazard and drop anywhere behind that point keeping the point between you and the hole. You would incur a 1 shot penalty





# Sponsor Report By Tuck Halsey

Our members and friends are encouraged to check out all the sponsor websites for what they offer; we owe them our complete support for their contributions to golf,

especially to our club here at Lincoln Hills. Again, if any of our sponsors have anything they would like to be included in our monthly Linksletter, please don't hesitate to let us, or me, know.



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#### **TOURNEY REPORT**

By Gene Andrews

Up coming Tournaments:

Oct 20 Tournament of Champions

Nov 17 Monster Tournament

Dec 8 Pinehurst

Our next tournament is the Tournament of Champions and Just for Fun Tournament. It will be on October 20th. Anyone who won in any flight during the year is eligible for the tournament of champions. All the other members will be playing in the Just for Fun Tournament at the same time on the course. As an added incentive to play, Gilchrist Golf Cars will sponsor a hole in one with a prize of a Brand New Yamaha Golf Car.

#### **DID YOU KNOW**

. Balls travel significantly further on hot days. A golfer swinging a club at around 100 mph will carry the driver up to eight yards longer for each increase in air temperature of 25°F.



#### **MEMBERSHIP**

By Roger Cummings

# <u>Application</u>

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#### IN THE PRO SHOP

The Lincoln Hills Men's Golf Club and the NCGA will begin the 2016 "Early Registration" period on October 1st.

For Renewing Members the dues from October 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015 will be \$83. Beginning January 1, 2016, the Renewing Members dues will increase to \$93.

For New Membership to our club, the fee will be \$93, but will entitle the New Member to play in the club events from October 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015. This is a great time to encourage your friends and neighbors to consider joining our club.

The fee for 2016 includes your hole-in-one insurance. Any member who has a hole- in-one in a club tournament/event will receive up to \$250 to pay their "Hole in One" bar bill.

By registering early, it will help the Board construct a realistic budget for 2016. Thank you for your Early Registration and for being an emissary for our club.





#### **Sunshine Alert**

#### By Bob Emge

From time to time, someone in the Men's Golf Club or their spouse will have a serious illness or pass away. As head of the of the Sunshine Effort, I would like to be informed of these events so I can send the person or their family an appropriate card. Also, if the member agrees, this information will be publicized in our monthly Linksletter so all members will be aware.









#### **OUR COURSE**

## By Jason Wolf, Superintendant



It's Fall, right?

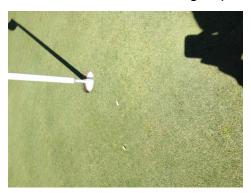
It really doesn't feel like it with highs in the mid 90's. The nights are nice and cool, helping with turf recovery from the hot afternoons. We are getting a flush of growth in the fairways right now from the slow release fertilize we applied earlier this summer. This flush is caused by temperature change in the soil resulting in the breakdown of the coating on the fertilizer. Below is a photo of how the fertilizer is coated.



We recently increased our rolling frequency to 3-4 times per week. Our goal is to increase greens speed and achieve a firmer and smoother surface. This effect is seen immediately but it diminishes over the days following rolling. While this effect is most beneficial to golfers and other end users, there are also some agronomic benefits as well. It has been shown that there are decreased occurrences of dollar spot disease. It has also been shown that there appears to be less damage from cutworms on turf that is rolled regularly. Rolling also helps a light topdressing of sand move down into the turf canopy. We have received many positive comments about the greens and how they have been playing.

Our moss spray program hs started on the Hills and Orchard greens this week. What we have on most of the greens is Silvery Threaded Moss. Mosses are a member of the Phylum Bryophyta. They are able to reproduce via spores or from displaced fragments. They lack vascular systems and can absorb water and minerals throughout the entire plant. This lack of a vascular system prevents systemic herbicides from translocating throughout the plant, making them useless for control. This is why we are using a contact herbicide to remove this moss. We had to wait until the temps cooled down to apply this. So you will soon see the spots turn brown then black over the next few weeks.

Below is a photo of sunflower seed shells next to the cup. We have been finding these often on the Hills and Orchard greens. If anyone knows who is doing this please tell them to stop. This person plays late afternoon/evenings and has been doing this for months. It's a total disrespect to anyone that is playing behind him/her and to us having to pick these off the greens by hand..



Thank you- Jason Wolf

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#### BE SURE TO VISIT OUR WEB SIGHT