



The Grove

March/April 2022

*The Official Newsletter of the
Buffalo Golf Club*

Kevin Starr, Editor

Organized in 1912 100+ years and counting

www.bgcgolfclub.com

President: **Alan Mis** Vice-President: **Brian Fries** Treasurer: **Joseph Attea**
Secretary: **Kevin Starr**

Board Members: **Frank Altieri, John Barrett, Mike Bass, Ken Hupkowitz, Greg Kaszubski, Matt Mariconda, Chuck Sentman, Paul Szydlowski**

SPRING STAG INFORMATION

The Spring Stag is ON! We hope to see you on Sunday, May 1 from 1:00-4:00 PM at Mooney's at 1531 Military Road (near Sheridan) in Kenmore. This would be a great time to pay your yearly dues (although earlier would be better) and to catch up on details regarding the start of our 2022 season.

THE BGC MOURNS THE LOSS OF TWO OF OUR FRIENDS

We send our condolences to the family and friends of Al Attea and Joe Rastelli, two long-time BGC members who passed away recently after long-battles with illnesses. We will all miss the kindness and spirit that these two fine men contributed to the Buffalo Golf Club.

NEW MEMBER OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

At the Board of Directors meeting on March 21, the Board voted unanimously to appoint Greg Kaszubski to fill the remaining term of Al Attea. The term ends this year. Welcome to the Board, Greg.

2022 BGC MEMBERSHIP DUES - The Board of Directors has decided to maintain the 2021 membership dues rates at the 2021 level. In addition, the \$20 credit issued last year to members who were fully paid for the previous season will be repeated this year. Here are the rates:

Regular membership - \$105. Fully paid members from 2021 will receive a \$20 credit, for a net cost of \$85. The hole-in-one jackpot fund is an additional \$5. Therefore – fully paid 2021 members who pay regular dues plus participation in the hole-in-one jackpot will owe \$90. Members who were granted a leave of absence for last year and who did not pay dues for the 2021 season will NOT receive the \$20 credit but will not have to pay the additional \$25 initiation fee.

Social membership - \$60

It would be appreciated if you can pay your dues before the Spring Stag on May 1, because there is always a large crowd and a bit of confusion at the sign-up table. Members may mail their dues checks to BGC Treasurer Joe Attea, 284 Blackstone Boulevard, Tonawanda, NY 14150. Checks should be made out to The Buffalo Golf Club. Joe will also accept payments via Venmo - @Joseph-Attea. Please consider paying your dues before the season starts. This will help streamline our membership process. *Also – be aware that unpaid members cannot play in tournaments or attest the scorecards of paid members!*

IMPORTANT DATES

Golf pass sales at Grover Cleveland – April 22, 23, 29, 30, 10am – 2pm

First tournament – starts May 4 (will be adjusted, if necessary, based on Grover's opening date and weather conditions)

Sweeps – will start the same week as the first tournament

President's Cup Qualifier – May 16 - May 30

Match Play Championship Qualifier – May 31 – June 13

HANDICAP POSTING IN NEW YORK STATE BEGINS APRIL 15

Please remember to post all of your home and away scores on GHIN. You should also post your away scores for rounds played in warm-weather states during the winter months.

MEMBERS 70 AND OLDER

If you are planning to play from the red tees, you must declare your intention to do so by contacting Alan Mis or Matt Mariconda BEFORE you start playing in the weekly tournaments. If you turn 70 during the golf season, you may switch to the red tees after your 70th birthday by notifying Alan or Matt before playing your first tournament from the red tees.

NEW BAG TAGS!

All current members will be receiving new PERSONALIZED bag tags. We plan to distribute them at the Spring Stag to all who are in attendance. Those who don't attend the stag will receive their tags at Grover.

PROGRAM BOOK

As with last year, the BGC program book will be digital-only. Members will be notified when it is available online.

TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

Copies of this year's tournament schedule will be available via the BGC website. There will also be some hard copies in the clubhouse.

NEW PROPOSED EVENT – “THE COUNTY CUP”

Final details aren't set yet, but we are looking into starting an annual tournament where representatives from the BGC will play against members of the Elma Meadows Men's Club for the opportunity to win the County Cup, similar to the Challenge Cup with South Park. We'll be sure to keep everyone informed of the particulars of this proposed competition.

BGC ONLINE STORE

Check the website for a link to the BGC Online Store. BGC logo merchandise is available to purchase; there are frequent specials that make this worth a look.

UPDATE ON GROVER COURSE WORK AND OTHER RELATED ITEMS

BGC President Al Mis reached out to Jim Jurek, Erie County Parks Superintendent, to find out the status of planned upgrades to the Grover Cleveland Golf Course. Here is Jim's response: “[Drainage and some bunkers will be done this year after Faery Golf finishes a few things at Elma early spring.](#)”

The BGC has also been in contact with Troy Schinzel, Erie County Parks Commissioner. We will be sure to keep our members apprised of any additional information that we learn.

This is from an email that was sent by the Erie County Parks Department to all season pass holders:

[Hello Season Pass Holders!](#)

[We hope you had a great Winter and now that the restrictions from the Pandemic seem to be behind us, we look forward to getting back to as close to a normal golf season as we can. Below you will find some news and updates on both Elma Meadows and Grover Cleveland Golf Courses.](#)

2021/ 2022 Completed Projects:

[Grover Cleveland Drainage Work \(across course\); Grover Cleveland Starter Shack Renovation; Grover Cleveland Irrigation Start-up/Repairs Project](#)

[Elma Meadows Tee Sign Installation; Elma Meadows Hole #10 Drainage; Elma Meadows Gas line Replacement; Elma Meadows Bunker Reconstruction \(Holes #17/#18\); Elma Meadows Starter Shack & Concession Stand Renovations](#)

2022 Projected Plans:

[Elma Meadows Cart Path Restoration Phase 1; Grover Cleveland Bunker Reconstruction \(Phase 1\); Grover Cleveland Schenk House Restoration \(Planning/Design\)](#)

Golf Course Staffing:

[We were able to secure more full-time positions at both Elma Meadows and Grover Cleveland in this year's budget. These positions will not only add additional help to our maintenance crew, but also will add new layers to our Starter/ Cashier operations.](#)

Concession Update:

[We are happy to announce that we are working out the details to bring a concessionaire to Elma Meadows for the upcoming season. Unfortunately the bids for concessionaires at Grover Cleveland were not as successful and we are still seeking a concessionaire interested in Grover Cleveland.](#)

Tee Time Intervals:

[We will be keeping the tee time intervals at both courses at 10 minutes for the 2022 season.](#)

Pass Sales:

We will have staff at each Golf Course on the below dates and times for pass holders to renew/ purchase/ change their Season Pass:

Friday April 1st and Saturday April 2nd from 10 AM - 2 PM at Elma Meadows Golf Course

Friday April 8th and Saturday April 9th from 10 AM - 2 PM at Elma Meadows Golf Course

Friday April 22nd and Saturday April 23rd from 10 AM - 2 PM at Grover Cleveland Golf Course

Friday April 29th and Saturday April 30th from 10 AM - 2 PM at Grover Cleveland Golf Course

2022 WNYPLGA (PubLinks) Schedule

John Barrett and Al Mis attended the annual WNYPLGA meeting on March 23. Here is some information about the first Publinks tournament of the season:

The Bill Boyle two-man best ball tournament will be held at Dande Farms Saturday morning, May 21 starting at 9:00 am. WNYPLGA has tee times reserved until noon. After all tee times are filled, registration will be closed. Cost, including entry fee, is \$40/person for walkers and \$48/person for riders. *BGC members who want to participate are responsible for the full cost. (BGC only pays the entry fee for the tournaments held at Grover and Elma.)* Anyone who wishes to play can either send a check to Tim Rickard at WNYPLGA or pay him via Venmo. You can contact Tim if you need his Venmo ID. You can download the WNYPLGA registration form (including Tim's contact information) from the BGC website: https://www.bgcgolfclub.com/PDFs/WNYPLGA_registration.pdf

Tim plans to post results of WNYPLGA tournaments on wnyplga.com and on the WNYPLGA Facebook page.

Other WNYPLGA tournaments:

Sat June 25th Charles Barton Team Championships at Hyde Park Golf course (six-man teams), 12 pm shotgun, entry fee \$60/team, golf fee \$39.50 per person

Tue. July 26th Senior Individual Championship at Seneca Hickory Stick Golf , 1 pm Shotgun, \$65 per person

Fri. August 12 Senior 2 man Better Ball at Sheridan Park Golf Course, 10 am tee times. \$94 per team

Sat August 27th 2 man Scramble at Elma Meadows, Possible shotgun, \$97 per team

Fri. and Sat. Sept. 9th and 10th Individual Championship at Grover Cleveland Golf Course, Possible shotgun start on Friday, Sat 9:30 consecutive, \$81 per person

We will provide additional information regarding registration for these events as soon as it's available.

Editor's note: An earlier version of the following appeared in the March 2021 edition of [The Grove](#). As with the previous example, this is meant for entertainment purposes only. Thank you to Greg Kaszubski for sharing this

PGA 2022 RULE CHANGES IN EFFECT FOR GOLFERS AGE 70+

Rule 9k.34– If a tree is between the ball and the hole, and the tree is deemed to be younger than the player, then the ball can be moved without penalty. This is so because this is simply a question of timing; when the player was younger, the tree was not there so the player is being penalized because of his age.

Rule 1.a.5– A ball sliced or hooked into the rough shall be lifted and placed on the fairway at a point equal to the distance it carried or rolled into the rough with no penalty. The senior player should not be penalized for tall grass which groundskeepers failed to mow.

Rule 2.d.6– A ball hitting a tree shall be deemed NOT to have hit the tree. This is simply bad luck and luck has no place in a scientific game. The senior player must estimate the distance the ball would have traveled if it had not hit the tree and play the ball from there.

Rule 3.B.3– There shall be no such thing as a lost ball. The missing ball is on or near the course and will eventually be found and pocketed by someone else, thereby making it a stolen ball. The senior player is not to compound the felony by charging himself with a penalty.

Rule 4.c.7– If a putt passes over a hole without dropping, it is deemed to have dropped. The Law of Gravity supersedes the Rules of Golf.

Rule 5. – Putts that stop close enough to the cup that they could be blown in, may be blown in. This does not apply to balls more than three inches from the hole. No one wants to make a mockery of the game.

Rule 6.a.9– There is no penalty for so-called “out of bounds.” If penny-pinching golf course owners bought sufficient land, this would not occur. The senior player deserves an apology, not a penalty.

Rule 7.G.15– There is no penalty for a ball in a water hazard, as golf balls should float. Senior players should not be penalized for any shortcomings of the manufacturers.

Rule 8.k.9– Advertisements claim that golf scores can be improved by purchasing new golf equipment. Since this is financially impractical for many senior players, one-half stroke per hole may be subtracted for using old equipment.

Please advise all your senior friends of these important rule changes.

Golf is...above all...a game of integrity.

Erie County is Hiring Employees for Grover and Elma!



**WE ARE
HIRING**

**SEASONAL CASHIERS, STARTERS, MAINTENANCE
WORKERS & SUPERVISING CASHIER/ STARTER**
**@ ELMA MEADOWS GOLF COURSE &
GROVER CLEVELAND GOLF COURSE**

**CONTACT: KATHLEEN CARBONE
KATHLEEN.CARBONE@ERIE.GOV
(716)858-6514**

GOLF PASS SALE DATES

10 AM - 2 PM

**FRIDAY APRIL 1 & SATURDAY APRIL 2
FRIDAY APRIL 8 & SATURDAY APRIL 9
@ ELMA MEADOWS GOLF COURSE**

**FRIDAY APRIL 22 & SATURDAY APRIL 23
FRIDAY APRIL 29 & SATURDAY APRIL 30
@ GROVER CLEVELAND GOLF COURSE**

Elma Meadows Golf Course
1711 Girdle Road Elma, NY

➤ Grover Cleveland Golf Course
3781 Main Street Buffalo, NY

