



The Grove April 2023

*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**
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SPRING STAG INFORMATION

The Spring Stag is ON! We hope to see you on Sunday, April 30 from 1:00-4:00 PM at the Harris Hill Fire Hall, 8630 Main Street in Williamsville. Thank you to Paul Szydowski for arranging for us to use this venue! Two important notes:

- We will need help cleaning up at the end of the stag. Please consider staying for a few extra minutes and helping with the process.
- As for parking: there is **NO PARKING** in the small lot by the front entrance or on the grass. The lot on the west side of the fire hall will fill up fast, so if it's full when you arrive, you're going to have to find parking nearby. Please refer to the diagram below.

The stag 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 2023 season.



2023 BGC MEMBERSHIP DUES

Regular membership - \$105. The \$20 credit that was given the past two years will not be given this year because we have worked down the excess treasury funds that were accumulated due to parties cancelled during COVID. The hole-in-one jackpot fund is an additional \$5. **Therefore –members who pay regular dues and participate in the hole-in-one jackpot will owe \$110.** New member initiation fee will remain at \$25. Members who were granted a leave of absence for last year and who did not pay dues for the 2022 season will not have to pay the additional \$25 initiation fee if they are reactivating their membership for the coming season

Social membership - \$60

Life Members - \$50. Dues for life members have increased to offset the increased cost of stags and GHIN fees. (This is the first increase in life member dues in modern history.) Life members who participate in the hole in one jackpot will have \$55 total payment due.

The club's cost to provide USGA handicaps through GHIN has increased to \$25 per member this year (approximately 25% of your membership dues).

Many BGC members choose to pay their dues at our Winter or Spring Stags. This is an option again this year. Members may also 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. (Make sure to use this exact Venmo address. There is another Joe Attea on Venmo that has inadvertently received some members' dues payments due to typing errors.) 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 –held on April 14 and 15 (10 AM – 2 PM). Message from Erie County:

Golfers may purchase annual unlimited golf passes for either or both courses by printing the application (available on the BGC webpage) and mailing the form and check/money order (made out to "Erie County Parks") to 95 Franklin St, Rm 1260, Buffalo, NY 14202. You may also call 858-8355 with any questions and fill out the form at our Downtown Office and submit payment in person. You may also pay in person at Grover Cleveland Golf Course on April 14 or 15.

First tournament – starts May 3 (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 15 - May 29

Match Play Championship Qualifier – May 3 – June 11. The Senior division will use full handicaps for the Match Play Championship.

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 (and countries) 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. (Members who declared red tees last year do not need to declare again this year, unless they are changing back to white tees.) 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.

In addition – based on the opinions expressed by most of our members at the Winter Stag, red and white tee players will continue to use a common jackpot pool for the hole-in-one prize.

BUFFALO GOLF CLUB COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The BGC is considering starting a community outreach program. Here is some preliminary information. We're very interested in hearing your suggestions and level of interest in participating.

What is Community Outreach?

An outreach program aims to help, uplift, and support those who are in need of assistance.

Examples of Community Outreach include:

- Food Drive
- Cleanup
- Blood Drive
- Coats for Kids/Adults
- Volunteering for a good cause
- Assisting a family in need

Let us know if you have any other suggestions for a community outreach endeavor. The BGC is also looking to sponsor an American Red Cross or ConnectLife Blood Drive at the Clubhouse at a future date. We will need volunteers to assist and Buffalo Golf Club members to consider donating blood.

If you're interested in taking part in a Buffalo Golf Club Community Outreach endeavor, have thoughts on other community outreach endeavors, or if you know someone who could benefit from an Outreach, contact Greg Kaszubski, at gpk109@icloud.com

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.

CONSIDER HELPING A FRIEND

Many of you know that one of our members, Rick Czosek, is bravely fighting a battle with cancer now; click on the link below to see how you can help.

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/ricks-fight-against-pancreatic-cancer>

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

This is the text of an email sent from Jim Wasiura, head greenskeeper at Grover, to Al Mis in February:

Our new tee signs like the ones at Elma Meadows are being manufactured currently for Spring installation. This will be a major improvement. Also a mainline drain on #9 has been installed and tied into the storm sewer system. This will drain #9 and the bad area at the beginning of #12 once lateral lines are installed in the Spring. We also have plans to have our contractor begin renovating some of the worst, most in play sand traps with drains and new sand. We are going to get as much done in the Spring as possible. Also, we will be having the ECAC here this year in July and are having the historic entrance stonework renovated. Looking forward to a great season and the crew wishes the Men's Club the best, we will see you soon!

USGA RULE REVISIONS

The USGA has gone through its periodic revision of rules. Check the BGC website for links to the changes on the USGA website. **The BGC will continue to require players to include their handicap and net score on tournament cards.**

2023 WNYPLGA (Publinks) Schedule

Saturday May 20th, 2023 - A & B Flights - Bill Boyle Memorial Two-Man Best Ball at Dande Farms Golf Course

Saturday June 24th, 2023 - A & B Flights- Charles Barton Team Championship at Hyde Park Golf Course

Friday & Saturday July 14th & 15th, 2023 - AA, A, B, C Flights -Individual Championships at Sheridan Park Golf Course

Tuesday July 25th, 2023 - Flights by Age & Handicap - Senior Championship at Hickory Stick

Friday August 11th, 2023 - Flighted by Age of Team - Senior Two-Man Best Ball at Grover Cleveland

Saturday August 26th, 2023 - AA, A, B, C Flights -Two-Man Scramble at Elma Meadows

We are presently working with the new WNYPLGA tournament director regarding how we'll handle BGC member entry fees for the tournaments at Grover and Elma.
