



The Grove February 2024

*The Official Newsletter of the
Buffalo Golf Club*

Kevin Starr, Editor

Organized in 1912 110+ 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 Hupkowicz, Greg Kaszubski, Nick Lowery, Matt Mariconda, Chuck Sentman**

Winter Stag – Sunday, March 3, 1-4 PM at
Mooney's (1531 Military Road in Kenmore).
We hope to see you there!

2024 BGC Membership Dues -

The club's cost to provide USGA handicaps through GHIN has increased to \$30 per member this year. In addition, the cost of our parties has increased significantly over the last couple years. Therefore, the Board of Directors felt it was necessary and prudent to enact a dues increase this year. The Board feels that the membership dues are still an excellent deal considering the number of tournaments and parties that are held throughout the season.

Here are the 2024 dues:

Regular membership - \$120 (up from \$105). 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 \$125.** 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 2023 season will not have to pay the additional \$25 initiation fee if they are reactivating their membership for the coming season

Life Members - \$65. Dues for life members are being increased in 2024 to offset the increased cost of stags and GHIN fees. **Life members who participate in the hole in one jackpot will have a total payment of \$70 due.** After accounting for the \$30 GHIN fee, life members are only paying an additional \$35 for the club's parties and tournaments.

Social membership - \$60 – this is unchanged from 2023.

Many BGC members choose to pay their dues at our Winter Stag. 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.

Erie County Season Passes – The application for season passes is now available. Here is the link:

<https://www3.erie.gov/parks/parks/sites/www3.erie.gov.parks/files/2024-01/golf-pass-application-2024-with-rules-form.pdf>

Please note that all 2024 season passes will have tee time access. If you had a season pass without tee time access last year, you cannot renew by mail. You must renew in person at county hall or at one of the sales events at the county golf courses. See the notice below for times and dates for season pass sales at the golf courses.

A promotional poster for the 2024 Golf Pass Sale Events. The top half features a white golf ball on a green lawn next to the Erie County Parks Department logo, which includes a shield with trees and the text 'ERIE COUNTY PARKS DEPT. NY'. The bottom half has a black background with white text. The main title is '2024 Golf Pass Sale Events'. Below it, the events are listed for Elma Meadows and Grover Cleveland. At the bottom, there is contact information: 'FOR RATES AND INFORMATION VISIT WWW.ERIE.GOV/PARKS/GOLF' and 'CALL (716) 858-8355 WITH QUESTIONS'.

2024 Golf Pass Sale Events	
Elma Meadows:	Grover Cleveland:
March 1st at 10am - 2pm	March 8th at 10am - 2pm
March 2nd 10am - 2pm	March 9th 10am - 2pm
	March 15th 10am - 2pm
FOR RATES AND INFORMATION VISIT WWW.ERIE.GOV/PARKS/GOLF	
CALL (716) 858-8355 WITH QUESTIONS	

Important clarification regarding match play tournaments (repeated from 2023):

We have had numerous members who have inquired about playing weekly tournaments at the same time that they are playing a match play round (President's Cup, Harvest Cup, or Match Play Championship). Keep in mind that this is not permitted due to conflicting playing rules for the two types of tournaments.

Sponsors!!! -We are always looking for new businesses/organizations/individuals to support the BGC by sponsoring our weekly tournaments or providing door prizes for our stags. \$145 buys a full-page ad in our program book and provides funding for prizes for one tournament. Please contact a Board member if you have any connections with or ideas for potential new sponsors. Remember to support our sponsors and let them know that we appreciate their support.

2024 Program Book – The book will be digital only again this year; we plan to upload it to the BGC website in late April.

Posting winter golf scores – Please remember to post your scores to GHIN for rounds played in southern states (and southern countries) during the winter. Rounds played in New York State don't qualify until April 15. Also – if you had any aces over the winter, let us know so that we can post the good news on the BGC website.

Recognition for members who have “shot their age” - We have a page on the BGC website recognizing members who have “shot their age.” Fran Barone, Cleo King, and Denis Lichtenberger are the first members of this very exclusive club. Please keep us informed about any additional members who accomplish this great feat.

Condolences

The BGC sends deepest sympathies to the families of Jack Seitz, Ray Dzierba, and former members Sasha Hites and Roger Foschio who passed away recently. In addition, we send our condolences to Mark Hy and his family on the loss of Mark's daughter Halley.

The Final Word:

An older gentleman from our club went to the course alone one day and got paired up with three younger, attractive women. They played golf very well and he was pleased about his good fortune, but kept to himself for much of the round. Finally, in an effort to break the ice, he asked the women if they would like to hear a blonde joke.

One of the women suggested that wasn't a very good idea. Even though they all appeared to be brunette, she explained that they were in the military and on leave. They were headed back to their special forces team the next day and were going on a secret mission at dark. Their normally blonde hair had to be dyed as part of their cover.

Then she said, “So, knowing that all three of us are actually blonde, but also part of an elite special forces team and highly skilled in hand-to-hand combat, are you sure you still want to tell that blonde joke?”

The gentleman replied, “Hell no. Not if I'm going to have to explain it three times.”

Poor guy didn't make it home in very good shape that day.