



The Grove JULY/AUGUST 2026

*The Official Newsletter of the
Buffalo Golf Club*

Kevin Starr, Editor

Organized in 1912 100+ years and counting

www.bgcgolfclub.com

President: **Kevin Starr**

Vice-President: **Matt Mariconda**

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Board Members: **Mike Bass, Joe Coyne, Tom Czerniejewski, Richard Fries, Ken Hupkowicz, Greg Kaszubski, Dan Lach, Nick Lowery**

2026 CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP PAIRINGS – SATURDAY, AUGUST 1

*DENOTES MEDALIST

‘A’ FLIGHT

8:00: **CLAUDIU MIHAI, MATT MARICONDA, *NICK ALAJKO**

8:10: **MATT EHMANN, MIKE BASS, TOM NOONAN**

8:20: **GREG KOSTYNIK, ADAM NOONAN, MARK PIATKOWSKI**

8:30: **NICK LOWERY, KEN GOSSEL, PAUL RUBINO, DANIEL O’LEARY**

‘B’ FLIGHT

8:40: **TONY POPE, *GAVIN SLOAN, TOM CZERNIEJEWSKI, CHARLIE GALLUZZO**

8:50: **JIM BURZYNSKI, FRANKIE CEFALU, FRANK ALTIERI, BRANDON CEFALU**

9:00: **RICH FRIES, KURT HAAK, DAVE BUTTERINI, STEVE BOCHNIARZ**

9:10: **VINCENT LOMBARDO, JOHN REGENSDORFER, JOE COYNE, WILLIAM MOORE**

‘C’ FLIGHT

9:20: ***KEN HUPKOWICZ, GREG HA, RICK RINK, JIM KLEIN**

9:30: **TOM FRIES, BOB FRIES, JOHN BARRETT, DOUG KNAPP**

9:40: **JIM RADWAN, GEOFF HICKS, JIM VACCARO, CLARK OLDENBROOK**

9:50: **DEL COSTELLO, KEVIN STARR, RICHARD RADWAN, ROBERT RADWAN**

SENIOR QUALIFIERS – WILL PLAY SUNDAY, AUGUST 2. CHECK BULLETIN BOARD IN CLUBHOUSE FOR TEE TIMES.

1. *BOB HALTER 65
2. LARRY HAMILTON 66
3. RICK EVERS 66
4. DAVE MOHR 67
5. STEVE ADAMS 68
6. DENIS LICHTENBERGER 68
7. JIM MARTIN 69
8. JOHN GOLONKA 69
9. KEVIN KELLY 69
10. AL MIS 71
11. CLEO KING 71
12. JOHN SMOLINSKI 73
13. JIM GOSDECK 75
14. TOM CORBETT 75
15. JAKE WATKINS EXEMPT
16. PAT MANZELLA EXEMPT

1ST ALT: ROBERT VACCARO SR 76
2ND ALT: DAVID AMBELLAN 77
3RD ALT: JIM SHELDON 79

Be sure to check the bulletin board in the clubhouse for the most up-to-date tee times for Saturday, August 1. Class A will be first, followed by Class B and then Class C. Tee times for Sunday will be determined based upon Saturday's results. The order on Sunday will be Class C, then Seniors, then Class B, and finally Class A.

Due to a variety of circumstances, minor changes may be necessary within some classes. Affected players will be notified of any changes. Players in the A/B/C classes on Saturday, August 1 with the top nine scores will move on to the final round on Sunday, August 2. Tee times for Sunday will be determined by the Saturday scores.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED DURING CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP ROUNDS

Volunteers are needed to help make the club championship weekend (August 1 and 2) a success. Some areas where help is needed are marshals (ball spotting and keeping things moving), checking score cards, setting up and taking down tables and chairs, and cleaning up after the picnic. If you are able to help, please sign the list in the clubhouse. Thanks for your support!

VERY IMPORTANT – TIME SENSITIVE!!!

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP FAMILY PICNIC – SUNDAY, AUGUST 2 STARTING AT APPROXIMATELY 3:00 PM

Please sign up on the RSVP list in the clubhouse. Re: number of guests –when you sign your name, please put the number including how many other immediate family members will be with you (for example, if a member is coming alone, write 1. If they are bringing their spouse, they would write their own name and indicate that their total party size will be 2). We need to know the number of guests ASAP so that we can make arrangements for an appropriate amount of food.

Also – please be aware that there will not be a tent or any additional chairs this

year. Please consider bringing your own lawn chair.

2026 MATCH PLAY CHAMPIONSHIPS

Matches are still being completed in most of the classes (A/B/C/Senior). Results will be included in the September newsletter.

PRESIDENT'S CUP 2026

Congratulations to Rick Evers who defeated Frankie Cefalu in the final match to claim the President's Cup championship.

HARVEST CUP QUALIFIER

Qualifying for the Harvest Cup tournament runs through August 9 at 5:00 pm. The qualifier is a two-man team better ball tournament. The top 16 teams will qualify to play in a team match play tournament. See the bulletin board for details.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION

The election will be held in the clubhouse on Saturday, September 12. There will also be the opportunity to vote via email if you can't be there that day. Details to follow. There will be a sheet posted in the clubhouse requesting nominations. Board terms are for three years. Terms ending this year are Joe Attea, John Barrett, Ken Hupkowicz, and Nick Lowery.

COUNTY CUP VS. ELMA MEADOWS – THE BGC WINS AGAIN!!!

After a great victory over the Elma Meadows team in 2025, the BGC team retained the County Cup with another epic win on July 18 and 19. Congratulations to our BGC representatives.

Buffalo Golf Club 2026 County Cup Selections:

“A Team Members:

Claudiu Mihai, Mike Bass, Greg Kostyniak, Matt Mariconda

“B” Team Members:

Tony Pope, John Robinson, Greg Harrington, Rich Fries

“C” Team members:

John Regensdorfer, Joe Coyne, Bob Halter, Gregory Ha

Day 1 at Elma Meadows:

Alternate Shot & Best Ball

7.5 Grover - 4.5 Elma Meadows

Day 2 at Grover Cleveland :

Singles

7.5 Elma Meadows - Grover Cleveland 4.5

Final Score:

12-12

The BGC retains the County Cup based on Grover's winning of the County Club in 2025.

Note re: the selection of our Class A, B, and C representatives:

Since the Grover and Elma courses have different slopes and ratings, we can't just pick members based on their handicap class at Grover. The basic reason that USGA assigns slope and rating to courses and handicap indexes to players is to allow them to compete fairly at different courses (and different tees at the same course). **Since this was a competition against players from a different course, we had to define the classes for the tournament using handicap index brackets.** We defined the brackets used by both golf clubs as 9.9 or less as A, 10.0-17.9 as B, and 18.0 or higher as C using handicap indexes on July 1. This helps ensure that groups of comparable skill levels are competing against each other (at least theoretically).

Special thanks to BGC Board of Directors member Greg Kaszubski for coordinating the selection of teams and the logistics of the two-day event.

ANOTHER BGC MEMBER DEFIES FATHER TIME

Congratulations to Rick Evers for shooting his age (73) on July 16. Rick joins Fran Barone, Cleo King, Larry Hamilton, Denis Lichtenberger, and Steve Prunella as BGC members who have achieved this great feat. Rick had a very productive month of July and is in the process of convincing his wife to build a new addition to their home for all of his hardware.

FIRST ANNUAL BGC SHOOTOUT

Thank you to Board member Greg Kaszubski for coordinating the first annual BGC Shootout event.

Shootout qualifying period: August 10 - 30, 2026

You may sign the book and attempt to qualify as many times as you like. Qualifying will be based on your 18-hole gross score (no handicap) with your lowest score being the score that will determine if you are in the top ten of your classification. Seniors will use the red tees.

Ten golfers will qualify in each group, with each group having a single winner. Qualifiers will compete in the Shootout event on Saturday September 19, 2026

A - 9:00 AM B - 9:20 AM C - 9:40 AM Senior - 10:00 AM

Format:

In each grouping all ten golfers will start at hole 1. At the conclusion of hole 1 the golfer with the highest score will be eliminated leaving 9 golfers for hole 2. If there are two or more players tied with the highest score, a chip-off will take place to determine which player is eliminated.

This setup will continue until at the conclusion of hole 9, one golfer will remain and will be the Shootout Champion of their grouping. If the final two golfers have the same score on hole 9, a chip-off will take place to determine the champion.
