

JANUARY NEWSLETTER



“I’ve never learned anything from a match that I’ve won.”
- Bobby Jones

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HOURS OF OPERATIONS

Upper Lounge Lunch & Dinner Service
11:00 am to 9:00 pm **Wednesday - Friday**
5:00 pm to 9:00 pm **Saturday**
Reservations encouraged.

Restaurant closures due to holiday parties and events are as followed:

January 13th: 5 pm to 9 pm
January 25th: 11 am to 2 pm

Golf Shop

Currently closed for the month of January.



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Fellow members,

I'm sure everyone is coming off the 'holiday hangover' from a busy Christmas season. I hope you all were able to spend time with family and your close friends.

The Club had a busy December too, with great crowds on Friday nights and well over 100 people coming out for dinner on New Year's Eve.

January brings the time of year where many of our members are receiving their annual membership invoices. A few years ago, we adjusted our membership to allowing new members to have a 12-month membership from the day they joined, a successful program. With that being said, many long standing members anniversary date is still January 1st. For those of you that have received this invoice please consider pre-paying in full, in doing so we are able to generate necessary off-season cash flow. In exchange we are offering 4 complimentary golf passes.

In our turf news section, John Femal, talks about the newly constructed member winter trails (see page 5) These member winter trails are just another way we are building additional uses of our facility year-round. We have asked all members utilizing these trails to text Tim Burkhart (828) 226-7276 when they do, this is a safety feature and a way for you to let us know if you bring a guest. (guest fees are \$5)

Our new winter trails will give way to our first full season on the renovated course. Something we are all looking forward to. Check out the trail map at the end of the newsletter!

Golf is still on my mind even in -20 temps and getting to watch an amazing tournament in Hawaii this last week helped the winter blues. Thanks, and congratulations to our friends at Sentry for their sponsorship of the Hawaii event.

Hit 'Em Straight!

-Jason Allen, Club President

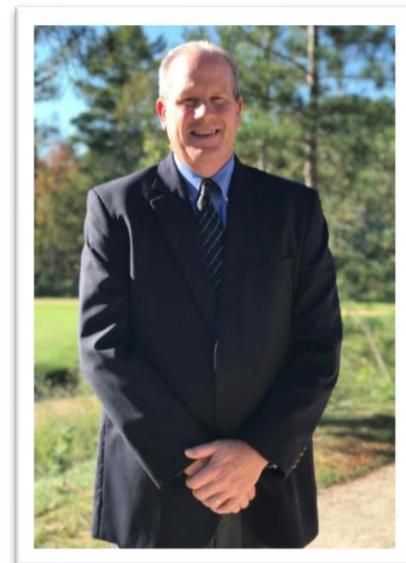
MESSAGE FROM THE GM

Thank you everyone who joined us at the club ringing in 2018! We hope you all had a wonderful holiday season, I know I did with my first Christmas in Stevens Point! I am proud and very appreciative of our staff and current members for making 2017 a great year with the new facilities.

We are thrilled with our continued growth, we signed on 13 new memberships in the month of December alone! This coupled with the fact your club is quickly becoming a popular spot for events with a renowned reputation is a wonderful opportunity for added income.

I am available throughout the winter months for any inquiries about new membership! Come on by to say hi and warm up with some hot food and beverages!

-Tim Burkhart, PGA General Manager



EVENTS

Member's Trails Open House



Saturday, January 13th 9am-3pm

We will be showcasing our new Member's Winter Trails, as a public open house to encourage new social membership! Trails include fat tire biking, cross country skiing, and snowshoeing! Doors open at 9am, with complimentary hot chocolate and coffee on hand! Invite your friends to come by to learn more about our club!

Try it Out Thursday!



Thursday, January 18th 6pm-7pm

Inspired by National Popcorn Day, we welcome you to join us for our "Popped" event! Learn how to make 3 cocktails that are made or garnished with popcorn! It's a perfect way to put all that holiday popcorn to good use! Reservations are highly

recommended. Please call 715-345-8900 to reserve your seat now!

Member Brunch



Sunday, January 21st, 10 am-1 pm

Join us for our monthly brunch! This month's will be centered around everything "White & Glistening." Enjoy a variety of breakfast and lunch-style items! Cost is \$20 per person. Children 12 and under, the cost is their age!

Wine Down Wednesday



Wednesday, January 24th, 6 pm-8 pm

Chocolate and dessert wine pairing! Reservations are highly recommended for this event. The cost is \$15 per person. Call 715-345-8900 to reserve your spot today!

What's Cooking?



Schaum Torte Recipe

The Kitchen Team of SPCC shares this delicious torte recipe!

What you will need:

6 Egg Whites (No YOLK must be visible)
 1 TSP Vanilla Extract
 1 TSP Almond Extract (Optional)
 1 Cup Sifted White Sugar
 Low Temperature Oven Required. Set at 120 degrees.

In a mixing bowl, whip egg whites, vanilla and almond extracts on high at room temperature until mixture starts to peak. While mixing on high, gradually add sugar until well blended. Transfer mixture to pastry bag with star tip, set aside.

On a sheet pan, cover with parchment paper, and spray with a non-stick spray. Using filled pastry bag, pipe meringue shell onto prepared sheet pan to desired size. Transfer pan of meringue shells to oven for four at least four hours. Meringue shells should have a nice vibrant white color with a low temp oven!

Once complete, top with Vanilla Ice Cream, Strawberries, and lots of Whipped Cream! Recipe makes 12 servings

Enjoy!

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Turf News

Welcome to 2018 and life in the deep freeze!

We are ready for some snow, so everyone can enjoy the winter trails for cross country skiing and fat tire biking here at the Country Club. More snow is needed so the trails can be safely groomed without doing damage to the turf in play areas. We would like to say thanks again to Dr. Steven Slezak and all of those who helped in the design and



preparation of the trails as well as the donation of the equipment which will be used for the grooming of these trails. Without their help, none of this would be possible. Other activities for this month will include snow removal to keep the entrance and parking lots clean and safe for all members and guests visiting the Club as well as the design and production of signs for marking the course for the



upcoming season. Most of these will be for the directing of cart traffic away from fescue seeded areas and allow them to mature and give the course the beautiful accents they were intended for.

I've shared a couple photos of donated equipment for winter trail grooming.

Stay warm everyone!

-John Femal

Golf Updates

The countdown continues as the golf season is only 3 months away. I have been busy planning for the



PGA Merchandise Show that is held the end of January in Orlando, Florida. The purpose of the show is to allow merchandisers the

opportunity to be introduced to new companies, view new products, and order inventory for the upcoming season. There will also an opportunity to network with fellow professionals, interview potential new employees, and attend various business seminars. The week will be very busy and holds many benefits for the club. My intention is to bring new and familiar product lines into the golf shop for the upcoming season. If you are interested in a product that you would like me to consider for 2018, please feel free to contact me at mpuls@stevenspointcountryclub.com. I wish you all a healthy and happy new year. See you soon!

Did you Know?

Michael Phelps made a 159-foot putt on the Old Course at St. Andrews in Scotland during the 2012 Dunhill Links Championship on the European Tour.

My "Winter" Tip

Putt wherever! A synthetic mat with an actual hole is your best bet for trying to recreate the pace and feel of a real putting green. Short of that, a coffee mug on your living room carpet will do. It might not make you a better putter, but spending three months hitting dead-straight six footers will at least make you *think* you're a better putter. And that, we all know, is half the battle.

-Mark Puls, PGA, Director of Golf

20/20 Links by Dr. Steve Slezak

Vision & Golf

Few sports are as dependent upon vision for both the technical requirements and aesthetic as golf. Can we all remember how the aesthetics of golf first captured us. I was standing on the first tee at Waveland Golf Course in Des Moines, Iowa, the first public golf course west of the Mississippi river. It was an elevated tea with a pond nestled to the right in the swale of the hills. The fairway stretched out ahead and snaked up a massive hill and around the corner of the dogleg with 100-year-old Iowa oaks on either side. Everywhere you looked the immaculately mowed grass was drenched in last night's dew. I felt to be the luckiest kid on the planet. We should never lose that sense of wonder at the visual beauty of golf. Stevens Point Country Club certainly has these vistas which take our breath away. After golf the indoors of a bowling alley just doesn't cut it.

But what about vision and the technical requirements of the game. How do changes in our visual system over a lifetime influence our ability to function at the highest level and what can we do to optimize our visual performance.

Let's first address visual acuity. A Snellen Eye Chart measures the ability to discriminate differences in letters, numbers, or figures which subtend known and very discreet angles. For example, the difference between an F and a P, or a C and an O. It is measured as 20/20 which means you can see at 20 feet what a normal person can see at 20 feet

A little known secret here is that younger people and athletes often have better than 20/20 vision. A cohort of major-league baseball players had an average visual acuity of 20/15 with some seeing as well as 20/10. Hidden pin placements, subtle breaks, visual cues for estimating yardages, calculating landing spots, and likely roll out, are all easier with 20/20 vision. Golf is not like football where if you are a lineman 20/40 vision is just fine. Having excellent vision is a definite advantage. So, see a

good eye doctor, get a refraction, and see as well as you possibly can. We have many excellent eye doctors in our area including one, Dr. Stephen Rollins, who is a member of our club.

Since golf is a sport for your entire life, let's look at what happens to your near vision at around age 45. We call this presbyopia. This is the loss of the ability to focus the eye at near due to a decrease in lens flexibility. This happens to everyone and eventually bifocals or cheaters are needed to record our golf scores. Options here include a progressive bifocal with the near portion of the lens low enough so that it does not interfere with your full swing, or a contact lens that has a multi focal point set for the intermediate distance of the golf ball at address.



Another very important topic with vision and the eyes is the need for protection from UV exposure. This can lead to skin cancer, but also conjunctival, corneal, lens, and retinal damage, especially if you have a family history of Age Related Macular Degeneration, prolonged exposure to sun growing up with lifeguarding, outdoor sports, or construction work. A golf hat at a minimum and sunglasses should be worn. Your dermatologist will appreciate this as well. Regarding sunglasses, the UV protection is independent of the darkness or color of the tint of the lens. So, stay with the minimum tint you need to reduce photo sensitivity and stay with a neutral gray tint rather than brown, green, or yellow as these all change the color of the greens which we have learned to correlate with moisture, grain, and speed.

Finally, frequently golfers tell me that they can't see their golf ball land anymore. This is worse when the sky is cloudy, in lower light conditions like dusk, or

against a light-colored backdrop such as fescue sand waste areas versus dark green evergreens. This can be especially frustrating if you are dependent upon others in your foursome to report where your ball ends up.

These are symptoms of loss of contrast sensitivity, the result of our lens becoming less transparent over time. Collect enough birthdays and you will develop cataracts. This is an inevitable aging process and is also symptomatic as glare with night driving. New eyeglasses or sunglasses won't help with this gradual cloudiness of the lens inside our eyes.

I've often thought that the challenges older people have with putting can at least in part be blamed upon this loss of contrast sensitivity and sharp vision. If you can no longer easily see that subtle break or your intended line, more putts are going to be missed and your confidence negatively impacted, especially on those short putts. Fortunately, cataracts can be fixed quite successfully. I have seen hundreds of patients get a new lease on their golf game after cataract surgery.

I am already telling my patients that Spring is just around the corner. Even if only to convince myself. And yet, winter is a great time to maximize your visual performance so that with the onset of spring, which will come even in Wisconsin, you are prepared for a great golf season.

Steven Slezak, M.D.

Thank you, Steve

Comments and Suggestions welcome at 2020links@gmail.com.

Staff News

We are super excited to announce that John Tengowski from our F&B team will be subbing in 2 shows as the Pianist for "The Last 5 Years". It is considered a very



tough Piano Show and to be selected is an achievement in its own right.

January Birthdays

We would like to wish a *Happy Birthday* to our members and their families!



Jim Billings, Fred Copps, Tim Cooper, George Davidson, Orlando Francisco, Jon Gadbois, Hans Hofmeister, Jake

Heyroth, Adam Hinker, Brian Haferman, David Ilkka, timothy Gottlieb, Josh & Leah Knights, Dr. GR Leach, Joseph Kim, Alex Molski, Jeffrey Moen, William Nantel, William Nicholson, John O’Keefe, Brendan Olinyk, David Paris, Lee Portmann, Steven Regnier, Marc Stolt, Jerold Trachte, Mark Wadina, Robert Worth, Louis Wysocki, Kenneth Schmidt, Patricia Anderson, Cynthia Berg, Jason Allen, Randy Grezenski, Joe Berrill, Nathan Bolton.

Thank you, members for reading this month’s newsletter. If you have any questions, comments or ideas for next month’s letter please reach out to us at GM@Stevenspointcountryclub.com

We hope to see you at the club soon!

Member’s Winter Trails Map

