



## Upcoming Events:

1/11: LGA - Navigating Winter Course  
Conditions 10:00am  
1/27: Par 3 Challenge 9:00am  
2/10: Super Ball 9:30am

### Weekly Member Play:

Ladies Day: Tuesday & Thursday 9:15am  
SMGA: Tuesday @ 10:00am  
Dogfights: Wednesday @ 12:00; Friday @ 12:00;  
Saturday @ 10:00; Sunday @ 12:00

## Local Knowledge:

### • Hole In One

Ricky Lusk joined our Hole In One Archive last month with an ace on Hole #17. From 113 yds he found the bottom of the cup using his pitching wedge. Congratulations!

### • Par 3 Challenge

The Par 3 Challenge is a fun format for the winter season so we hope you will join us on January 27 for this year's event. Read more details in News From the Golf Shop and make plans to join in on the fun.

### Lessons & Grips

Thinking about lessons to take your game to the next level? Head Golf Pro Steve Larick and Assistant Golf Professional Justin Fowler are available to take you there. Justin is also available for regripping clubs.

### • Member Login's

If you haven't been able to login to your member account or our tee time portal please let us know. Email: [info@goldenhillsgolf.com](mailto:info@goldenhillsgolf.com) if you need assistance.

### • Tennis Anyone?

Read page 2 of The Link to find out more information on Advantage Tennis at Golden Hills.

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## News from the Golf Shop

We hope you and your family enjoyed a wonderful holiday season! Now that 2023 has come to a close most folks will take the time to assess what they did well and maybe not so well in hopes of improving in 2024. We call it New Years resolutions! For many of us, it seems we tend to make some of the same resolutions every year: lose a few lbs, exercise more, be a more attentive to spouse, PLAY MORE GOLF!! We hope the 2024 golf season will provide you with many opportunities to fulfill your resolution to play more golf. We are excited about all that 2024 has to offer and are prepared to help you attain that goal of playing more golf!

Here at Golden Hills we are always looking for ways to improve your experience as you come to visit us. In the past year you may have noticed the beautification project on #10 and its new bridge. Last month we also put in a new bridge on #11! In August we brought in a new fleet of Golf Carts. And last but not least we got a new operating system with both online tee time reservations and payment capabilities. We would like to thank those of you who are using the new online reservation system and have been diligent as to the accuracy of your tee times in regards to the number of players in your group. If you have any questions about how to be more accurate, please take a moment to contact Steve or Justin in the Golf Shop. As mentioned in the previous newsletter, we are monitoring the online tee times and have noticed either some mistakes or misuse by some in making tee times for 4 people when only 1 or 2 are coming to play. Unfortunately, with demand to play The #1 golf course in the Midlands, Golden Hills, we need to curtail these mistakes and be able to pair members with other members that would like to play. Please help us service the membership better by making accurate tee times and notifying the Golf Shop ASAP when there is a change. Remember the member missing out on playing may be you!

The 2023 tournament season finished up in December with the Golden Hills Match Play Championship. The semi-final matches were comprised of Rick Kester versus Ricky Epperson and David Huff versus Thomas Looper. Ricky Epperson defeated Rick Kester on the 19th hole to earn a spot in the finals versus David Huff who defeated Thomas Looper. In the final match, Club Champion David Huff birdied 5 of his first 9 holes to leave little doubt as to who would be the 2023 Match Play Champion. Congratulations David Huff on a great year as both the Club Champion and Match Play Champion. Well Done!

Join us on Saturday, January 27th for the Par 3 Challenge. Members and invited guests are welcome to play. In this event every hole at Golden Hills will be set up as a par 3 with yardages ranging from 50-150

yards. Play will begin at 9:00 with a shotgun start. Prizes will be awarded for closest to the pin on all 18 holes as well as low net and gross prizes. Make plans to come out and join in the fun.

The Senior Men's Golf Association seemed to have fallen on hard weather in December and was not able to play very often. When we have a drought, we will schedule them to play and the rain will come! With the continued growth of the SMGA we are sure that 2024 will be another great year! During the winter months the SMGA will continue to play on Tuesday mornings at 10:00, weather permitting. Be sure to call in by 3:00pm on Monday afternoons to secure your spot to play on Tuesday mornings.

Throughout the winter months we will continue to host Ladies Play Days on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 9:15. Whether you are a beginner or scratch golfer, play 9 or 18, walk or ride, all are welcome to come join in the fun.

Looking forward to next month, we will host our annual Super Ball tournament on Saturday, February 10. Mark your calendar and make plans to kick off the Superbowl weekend with us. The format for the Super Ball will be Play It Forward. The format is individual stroke play using 100% of handicap. Ages 54 and under will play the green tees; ages 55-69 will play the black tees; ages 70 and over will play the red tees. This is a fun way to test the course and your skills from a different set of tees.

During the month of January, be sure to check your email or call the Golf Shop before heading to the course for your scheduled tee time. Unfortunately, those pesky frost delays are unavoidable and very hard to predict. Also be sure to check with the Golf Shop before using any of the facilities, including the putting green and driving range to make sure they are ready for play. Please be aware and know that the Golden Hills staff is committed to doing our best to keep things running as smoothly as possible with as little delay as possible. Also, during the winter months, please help keep your golf course in great shape by obeying cart rules. With frost or excessive moisture, driving a cart on the grass can cause damage to the leaf blades and roots. Please check with the Golf Shop staff before starting your round for the rules of the day. We would like to thank each one of you for your support in 2023 and look forward to a great 2024 serving you!

Your Golf Shop Staff,  
Steve Larick, Justin Fowler & Jared Courtenay

## Ladies Golf Association

Welcome to 2024 and what we know will be another great year for our ladies at Golden Hills. 2023 was a banner year for us as our membership grew and we hope to welcome even more ladies to join us this year. If you are new to the club or just looking for more playing opportunities, we hope you will join us at every opportunity for an 18 or 9 hole round on the links. Ladies Play Days at the club are held each Tuesday and Thursday at 9:15am. If you would like to join us, call the Golf Shop at (803) 957-3355 two days in advance to secure your spot. Come out and join us, you'll be glad you did!

Wow, Regina Sellers hit it out of the park for our Christmas party last month! The weather was perfect for golf, the fellowship was even better and the food was delicious. After golf and before the Christmas festivities, we had a quick LGA meeting. During the meeting we thanked Karen Waterfield & Milly Kester for your service to our LGA for that last 2 years as co-Events Coordinators! They are leaving some big shoes to be filled. Filling those shoes will be the very capable Carol Wiggins and Trish Simons. We thank you both in advance for your willingness to serve. Please mark your calendars for the first LGA meeting of 2024 on February 13.

We would like to congratulate the 2023 award winners recognized at our party last month: Carole Stone won Low Gross in the LGA Championship; Sandra Jackson won 1st place in the Ringer Board competition followed by Trish Proctor & Annemarie Keene; Janet Hoffmann won 1st place in the Birdie Tree competition followed by Kathy S.; Carol Wiggins won the Most Improved Golfer and our LGA won the 2023 LHLM Championship!

On January 11, our Golf Pro's Steve & Justin will give us a lesson on "Navigating Winter Course Conditions". As we all know the lies get tighter and the rough gets rougher in the winter. Our golf balls don't seem to go as far and our game seems to change a little. Steve & Justin will talk about what changes in our game in the winter and/or change with our game. After the indoor session we will head out on the course and they will help us with what we've learned. The cost of this lesson will be partially paid for by the LGA. The cost per person will be determined based on the number of participants. After the event we will meet back in the clubhouse for a pizza lunch. The session will start at 10:00am. If you would like to participate, please contact Annemarie Keene at (803) 318-3107 or email her at: snauzers@yahoo.com . RSVP's are required to participate.

## Senior Men's Golf Association

Happy New Year! If you are looking for more opportunities to play at the club in 2024, look no further. Our SMGA welcomes the participation of any male member of Golden Hills, age 55 or older. You can join us every Tuesday at 10:00 am for a little friendly competition. The format changes each week and is fun for all skill levels. To be included, simply call the Golf Shop by 3:00pm on the preceding Monday at (803) 957-3355.

Due to our success over the last 2 years of attracting new members the following new procedures have been put in place: 1 - We will no longer accept new members. Instead there will be a waiting list. If you are interested in getting on the list, please contact the Golf Shop staff and they will pass the information along to us. From that list, prospective members will be accepted on a first come basis. 2 - We have 64 slots that we can use each Tuesday. This takes us back to hole #12. We cannot go back any further because it interferes with the maintenance schedule. The first 60 players that sign up get to play. It's the first 60 because the last foursome includes the council member in charge of the pairings. The master list will not be available until Thursday of each week, this will preclude players from signing up on the prior Tuesday without the knowledge of exactly how many they will have the following week. Singles will still be treated as before; i.e.: you will be paired with guys that are as close to your game as possible. 3 - To qualify for the 2024 SMGA Championship you must have at least 10 rounds recorded on from our Tuesday matches.

**Dec. 5:** 1<sup>st</sup> - Doc Griffin (+7); 2<sup>nd</sup> (tie) Bruce Liles & John Sullivan (+3); 4<sup>th</sup> (tie) Del Crawshaw & Hardy Youmans (+2); 6<sup>th</sup> - Randy Miller & John Sumner (0); 8<sup>th</sup> (tie) Mark DiMaggio, Don Elliott & Jeff Jordan (-1)

**Dec 12:** 1<sup>st</sup> - Doc Griffin (65); 2<sup>nd</sup> - Jeff Jordan (67); 3<sup>rd</sup> - Kirk Wiley (70); 4<sup>th</sup> - Mark Lipinski (71); 5<sup>th</sup> - Rich Turgeon (72); 6<sup>th</sup> (tie) Chuck Cordovano, Jim Davis, Lonnie Griffin & Larry Harding (73)

If you would like to receive emails from the SMGA about events and results, send your address to Ray Chiellini. He can be reached by calling (803) 518-4215 or email him at: dober2plus1@gmail.com

## Tennis

Advantage Tennis at Golden Hills is led by Coach Whit Moorman. Coach Moorman offers lessons to all ages and ability levels but focuses heavily on junior tennis enthusiasts. Current programs being offered: **CHAMPIONS** - Ages 11 to 18 of all skill levels. Advanced players under 11 years of age should speak with coach to determine appropriate program. **SCHEDULE:** M, T, Th 5:00pm to 7:00pm; 5:00 - 5:15 Dynamic Warmup/Short Court, 5:15 - 6:00 Drill for "Shot of the week" including technical training, 6:00 - 7:00 Competitive games focused on "Shot of the week". \* Shot of the Week - Each week will focus on a specific skill (i.e. forehands, volleys, serves, backhand, transition, footwork). **CHALLENGERS** - Ages 6 to 11 beginners and intermediate Focus on Fun & Fundamentals. **SCHEDULE:** T and Th 4:45pm to 6:00pm; 4:45 - 5:00 Warmup and Footwork, 5:00 - 5:30 FUNdamentals, 5:30 - 6:00 FUN competition. You can contact Whit at: (912) 381-1584

