

March 2026



## *News from the Golf Shop*

We hope this newsletter finds you doing well! Unfortunately, Punxsutawney Phil may have gotten it right this year as we've seen an active winter that could hang around for a little while. While the cold temperatures in February made it difficult to play golf comfortably, we are thankful for all who braved the elements and found time to play a little golf. We want to thank all of you for your patience in dealing with frost delays, snow, and inclement temperatures. Hopefully in March we will see a return to warmer temperatures, more daylight, and great conditions to play golf!



Despite the poor conditions in February, we were able to complete two events: The Play it Forward and the MGA's Pinehurst Alternate Shot. While we experienced a cool brisk morning, the Play It Forward golf tournament teed off without a hitch. Several players found playing a tee forward of their normal tees to their liking. Others, not so much. 4 players managed to break par with Jeff Smoak leading the way with a 4 under par 67 narrowly edging out Paul Morario in the net division by 2 shots. Congratulations Jeff, well done! The gross division was even closer as Shawn Miller edged out Stan Rawl by 1 shot with a 3 over par 74. Congratulations Shawn!

The Men's Golf Association played its first event of the year on February 21, the Pinehurst Alternate Shot. In this two-man team competition both players tee off, hit your partners drive next, then select 1 ball to continue alternating till the 1 ball is holed. It was an amazing competition as Mason Frier and Josh Bagwell fired a 6 under par 65 to narrowly hold off 4 teams who shot 4 under 67. Congratulations Mason and Josh! Next up for the MGA will be the Yellow Ball tournament on March 21st. This is a 4-man team competition with 2 separate tournaments. Players will alternate holes playing the yellow ball while the other 3 play a net best ball. To sign up, call the Golf Shop at 957-3355.

The wait is over! The first Couples Tournament of 2026 will be held on March 15 at 10:00. The format will be a Net Best Ball. Lunch will follow play in the clubhouse. Mark your calendar and contact the Golf Shop to register at (803) 957-3355.

During the month of March, the Senior Men's Golf Association will continue to play at 10:00 on Tuesdays. The Ladies Golf Association will keep their same times on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 9:15, 1:15 and 9:15 respectively. If you have not played with either of these groups before, what are you waiting for? Come on out and join in the fun!

Be sure to mark your calendars for the two tournaments coming up in April. The Masters Pick a Pro will be held on Saturday, April 11 and the Member/Member on Saturday and Sunday, April 25 & 26.

As always, we appreciate your patience during the winter months for inclement weather and frost delays. As the weather starts to warm up you will see a change in the conditions of the greens, fairways and rough. During this time the grass is very tender and needs special care. Please help us maintain the fantastic playing conditions we all love by filling your divots with sand, repairing your ball marks and obeying all cart rules. Help us maintain the conditions that make us the #1 golf course in the Midlands.

As we enter the spring season it becomes increasingly important to be accurate when making tee times. Please be sure when making tee times online or in conversation with the Golf Shop staff you clarify how many players you are expecting to play. While we understand that things happen that make it where players are unable to make their tee times, it is unacceptable to no show. No shows will be charged for every player that does not cancel their time. In the case where 1 person makes the time for 4 players, the person making the time will be charged the no show fees. Please be courteous to the rest of the membership and cancel times as soon as you know you cannot make it to your time. Members playing in our DOGFIGHT's, you must call the Golf Shop at a minimum of 48 hours in advance to let us know you or your group are coming to play. If you do not call the Golf Shop, you may be turned away. This is a situation that no one wants. Please have respect for the Golf Shop staff and the rest of the membership and call!

Here's looking forward to a great March!

Your Golf Shop Staff: Steve Larick, Justin Fowler, Doyle Price

## Ladies Golf Association

### Upcoming Events:

3/15	Couples Tournament	10am
3/16	Battle of the Dam	9am
3/21	MGA - Yellow Ball	9am
3/23	Irmo Chamber	12pm
3/25	CRTMA	9:45
3/30	Young Life	11:30

What a great day we had last month for our LGA to kick off the 2026 season! It was wonderful to have so many ladies join in the fun for our Captain's Choice on February 19. Since it was one of our "Fun Day" tournaments, everyone had to use a little "strategy" to decide which 3 clubs to play along with the putter. The team of Melanie Ward, Karen Waterfield, Sandra Jackson & Kris Cato figured it all out and had a low score of 68. Closest to the Pin on #3 was Donna Jerman and Karen Waterfield garnered Closest to the Pin on #10. Congratulations ladies!

The Queen's Cup will begin March 19th and run through May. This is match play with handicap (those over 36 shots, will have to play with only 36), and it's a head-to-head match for 18 holes. What's great about this tournament is that even if you have a snowman, for example, and you lose the hole, you can move on and not dwell about your poor hole and all its shots! Sign up in the Golf Shop by Match 16. Sixteen people would be great but hopefully 32 ladies will decide to play. The cost is \$20 + cart fee. When you win a match, you win \$20 — Carole Stone won \$100 last year for taking home the Queen's Cup crown! Come join in the fun... please see Kathy Shillaber for more details/questions.

The Birdie Tree will be run again this year! Sign up is \$10 and you have from March 1 - Dec 1 to post all your birdies from any ladies day play. Birdies were scored across the board last year from many of our LGA members with both high and low handicaps, so don't think this type of event is just for lower handicapped golfers. You can join in even if it's after March 1st. Please see Kathy Shillaber to sign up.

If you would like to join us for any of our weekly LGA Play Days, consider this your invitation. We have ladies of all skills levels that participate, some like to ride and while others prefer to walk. If you just want to play 9 holes, that is fine as well. Our play days for March will be held each Tuesday at 9:15, Wednesday at 1:15 and Thursday at 9:15. If you would like to come play with our ladies simply call the Golf Shop and they will give you the information you need to get connected.

## Senior Men's Golf Association

If you are new to the club or just looking for more playing opportunities, consider joining our SMGA. Any male member of Golden Hills, age 55 or older, can join us each Tuesday at 10:00 am for a little friendly competition. To be included on the roster, call the Golf Shop by 2:00pm on the proceeding Sunday at (803) 957-3355.

For all our SMGA members, make plans to join us for our Christmas party, at the clubhouse, on December 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm.

The results from last month were as follows:

**Feb 10:** A flight: 1 - Bob Walts 68, 2 - Mark DiMaggio 73, 3 - Keith Morgan 74, 4 - Mike Ruddy 75; B flight: 1 - Al Prudhomme 69, 2 - Mark Wiggins & Howard Werner 73, 4 - Wallace Chavis, Bill Buonomo & Johnny Williams 74

**Feb 17:** A flight: 1 - Randy Laney/Barry Mears 58, 2 - Ron West/James Cavanaugh 60, 3 - Jody Young/Butch Hale & Doug Stanard/Gary Maynard 62; B flight: 1 - Doug Harper/Bob Waterfield 55, 2 - Al Beard/Frank Jansen & Al Prudhomme/Bill Buonomo 59, 4 - Kirk Wiley/Larry Harding, Rich Turgeon/Terry Conroy & Buddy Driskell/Lloyd Meinke 62

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: dober2plus1@gmail.com

### Local Knowledge:

- **Lucky Day:** Visit the Golf Shop on March 17 for 50% savings on all our apparel. New items for spring are on the way so we have to make room for all the 2026 styles.
- **Hole In One:** We had 2 members find the bottom of the cup on 2/6/26. Congrats to Parker Murray for his on #3 & Barry Gossett for his on #13.
- **Simply the BEST!** We are proud to announce that we have, once again, been voted Best Golf Course by the readers of Lexington Life. Thank you for your vote & continued support!
- **Save your Date:** The clubhouse makes the perfect setting for any celebrations you are planning in 2026. The dates are filling in fast so be sure to contact Laurice to save your date soon. 803-957-3355
- **Murphy's Custom Golf:** Broken shaft? Could your clubs use a loft & lie adjustment? Count on Ryan to get you back on the tee & hunting birdies. Call (803) 360-4909
- **Advantage Tennis at Golden Hills** is led by Coach Whit Moorman. Lessons are offered for all ages & ability levels. Call (912) 381-1584 for more info.

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