



*Fore! Cast*

April 2009

## FROM THE D.O.G.

April's weather came in February and February's weather arrived in April, but, we're now in great golf weather!

Vince and his staff have done a great job getting the course ready for 2009! Aerification is complete, new seed is down and with a little more warm weather everything will be in 'full swing'.

We have a full compliment of tournaments for you and your family to enjoy so get involved and have fun at Willowbend! Be an active member of your club!

We are now signing up the juniors for our acclaimed junior golf program. Call the golf shop for details and get your junior golfer signed up for a great 2009 program!

Happy Golfing,  
Rick Nuckolls

## FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

You may be wondering why Rod is writing in this column. It's because Rick and I have switched positions! Let me explain why this isn't as crazy as it may seem at first glance. From the members' point of view, since Rick and I have each worked at both jobs at various times in our careers, there isn't the usual learning curve associated with changing positions. From our point of view, it is an opportunity to start the 2009 season with fresh challenges and opportunities!

As owners, we obviously wear whatever hat is required to get the job done. (My cart boy skills have been put to use lately...I can't wait for school to get out!) We are fortunate to have an outstanding staff that assists in keeping the club running smoothly and providing the best possible service for our members and their guests..

As manager, I intend to carry on with the first-rate job Rick has done. I would like to remind everyone that Willowbend is a great community that prospers best when we all work together with open communication. So, please continue with any comments or suggestions as most often the best ideas originate from an experience elsewhere!

Rod Nuckolls

## TURF TALK

Today we sit at a wonderful 61 degrees on our way to 70 or so. Four hours ago we had our full coveralls on and were waiting for the frost to clear off. This has been how winter and spring went for us so far this year. We actually had a more spring-like February than April has been thus far. We punched greens back on the 23rd of March. Since then we have had temperatures as low as 20 degrees. We have had upwards of 5 inches of snow, and several cold rains. Unfortunately, bentgrass does not begin to really grow with these air temperatures and soil temperatures below 55 degrees. The soil temperature of our greens are in the mid 40's right now and will stay there until the nighttime lows level out and the angle of the sun becomes more direct (and when the snow quits falling). I realize that you have had to deal with sandy greens for over three weeks now but on the bright side we did get the holes filled pretty well this time. We take a risk every time we punch greens in March but this time we really got hammered because of the odd weather pattern that we are in. We have a very active club, and a very active tournament schedule. We have to take the opportunities we have to get our cultural practices done. As bad as it might be right now it could be much worse. If we begin to skip these necessary treatments because it disrupts golf conditions, you will be inconvenienced for far longer with far worse conditions. It has been tried in the past here and at other facilities and it never works in the clubs favor.

Over the winter we did our usual cleaning and painting of the golf course accessories i.e., benches, ball washers, cooler stands, and trash cans. We also made a complete new set of tee markers including a set of "silver" (because gray might be insulting) senior tees. These will be between the white and red markers and should be out on the golf course soon. The scorecard will be revised next year as the decision to make the new markers was made after the new cards had been ordered for this season. We also have replaced a lot of the fiberglass rake handles with green aluminum ones. We did this last season and again this year. By next spring we hope to be free of all the old fiberglass rakes. Over the winter we installed a new pump in number 15 tunnel. This along with the new float switches we installed last season should make it more reliable. This does not mean that the tunnel won't flood, as the runoff outpaces the pump much of the time. It does however mean that the pump should at least start and continue working throughout the storm. In the past, sometimes the pump started when it was supposed to and sometimes it didn't.

We have many other things going out on our course right now. We have had the storm water drain on the right side of number 1 cart path cleared of tree roots and silt. Hopefully it will continue to drain well and we won't have a flooded fairway for a while. We also have been fighting some electrical problems with irrigation heads in the approach on number 1. After spending countless hours tracing wires and trying to figure out where the problem was, we decided it would be best to have new wires pulled in to the affected heads. I am happy to report that we had that done this week and everything is up and running again. In the coming weeks, we will begin our spring chores. Aside from routine mowing, we will be applying our pre-emergent herbicides. We will be fertilizing all of the bluegrass. Our bi-weekly nutrient program for the greens will be in full force as well as the poa control program. We will begin cold patching the cart paths as soon as the weather warms up enough to make the patch soft enough to pack. And as usual, you will no doubt drive past us repairing leaks here, there and everywhere.

Feel free to stop me on the course or call my office 744-0400

## Men's Club Results

### Men's Opening Event March 21st

1st	Larry Jones, Mike Leahy, Gary Ruedebush, Chuck Miller	60
Tie 2nd	Craig Rauvolabouta, Bob Hill, Bill Higinbotham, Josh Haley	61
Tie 2nd	Jeff Bell, Dan Buck, Greg Vance, Scott Cleveland	61
Tie 2nd	Harold Siemens, Don Zinn, Jeff Sennett, Dick Genter	61
Tie 5th	Bill Quattlebau, Mike Pottorf, Kendall Clay, Bud Martinez	62
Tie 5th	Brock Buckingham, Jim Ely, Walter Young, Larry Gardner	62
Tie 7th	Jim Ewart, Warren Viney, Jim Shepler, Dave Kurtz	63
Tie 7th	John Welch, Ken Gile, Bill Jones, Bob Helsel	63
Tie 7th	Rick Coons, Mark Alfred, Max Johnson, Don Foster	63
Tie 10th	Duane Creekmore, Warren Hardy, Dave Dolinar, Alan Phares	64
Tie 10th	Mark Ziser, Mark Eby, Ben Burgess, Bobby Cox	64
Tie 10th	Larry Prather, Pat Quincy, Jack Vance, Randy Odette	64

### All Tee's Tournament (April 11th)

#### First Flight

##### Gross Division:

1st	Brock Buckingham	68
2nd	Elliott Soyez	71

##### Net Division:

Tie 1st	Jay Wyckoff	72
Tie 1st	Ben York	72

#### Second Flight

##### Gross Division:

1st	Cy Wiggans	74
2nd	Steve Costello	75

##### Net Division:

Tie 1st	Mike Leahy	68
Tie 1st	Pat Quincy	68

#### Third Flight

##### Gross Division:

1st	Mark Eby	76
2nd	Doug Thurwanger	81

##### Net Division:

Tie 1st	Greg Plumlee	68
Tie 1st	Jim Ely	68

#### Fourth Flight

##### Gross Division:

1st	Jim Shepler	78
2nd	Thom Rosenberg	80

##### Net Division:

1st	Bill Jones	67
2nd	Dwight Deckert	70

#### Fifth Flight

##### Gross Division:

1st	Dan Reiners	82
2nd	Phil Barrager	88

##### Net Division:

1st	Chuck Miller	67
2nd	John Wojtowicz	76

#### Sixth Flight

##### Gross Division:

1st	Bob Helsel	86
2nd	Bud Martinez	96

##### Net Division:

1st	Don Foster	69
2nd	Larry Peterson	72

## Coming Events - May 2009

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
					1 Ladies Team Play 9:00am	2
3	4 Envision 10:00 am	5 Half Price Guest Day	6 Ladies 9-Hole Scramble 6:00 pm	7	8	9
10	11 Riverfest 11:00 am	12	13 Men's League 6:00 pm	14	15	16
17	18 Heartspring 1:00 pm	19	20	21	22	23 Men's 4-Ball 9:00 am
24 Men's 4-Ball 9:00 am	25	26	27 Men's League 6:00 pm	28	29 Ladies Team Play 9:00am	30

## Coming Events - June 2009

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
	1 NAIFA 1:00 pm	2	3 Ladies 9-Hole Scramble 6:00 pm	4	5 Men's Member Guest	6 Men's Member Guest
7 Men's Member Guest	8 Big Brothers Big Sisters 10:00 am	Half Price Guest Day Jr. Golf Lessons	10 Men's League Jr. Golf Lessons	11 Jr. Golf Lessons	12 Jr. Golf Lessons	13
14	15 Trinity Golf Outing 1:00 pm	16 Jr. Golf Lessons	17 Jr. Golf Lessons	18 Jr. Golf Lessons	19 Jr. Golf Lessons	20
21	22 MAMBDC 12:30 pm	23	24	25	26 US Senior Qualifier	27 US Senior Qualifier Ladies Member Guest
28 US Senior Qualifier	29 KGA Jr. Golf Tournament 7:30 am	30	31			

## *Our Staff*

Rick Nuckolls	General Manager
Rod Nuckolls	Director of Golf
Brad Kipper	Asst. Golf Professional
Vince McAlister	Golf Course Superint.
Brian Anderson	Asst. Golf Course Superint.

## *Club Phone Numbers*

Office: 636-5555 | Bar and Grill: 858-3287

Golf Shop: 636-4653 | Maintenance: 744-0400  
(GOLF)

## *Hours of Operation*

November 1 to March 31: 9:00 am – 5:30 pm  
April 1 to April 30: 8:00 am – 7:00 pm  
May 1 to September 16: 7:30 am – 8:00 pm  
September 16 to October 31: 8:00 am – 8:00 pm  
Mondays begin at 12:00 noon  
Weekend tee times start at 6:30 am, Memorial Day  
to Labor Day

## *Tee Time Reservations*

Members may make reservations 1 week in advance for weekday tee times. Weekend and holiday times may be made 3 days in advance. (Example: Call Wed. for Sat. & Thurs. for Sun.) Tee times for weekends and holidays must be made by telephone. Reservations for all tee times may be made 30 minutes prior to the first tee time. Weekend and holiday tee times from Memorial Day to Labor Day will be taken at 7:00 am.



*Specializing  
in  
Willowbend!*

Janet Ast  
tel: 722-0030  
cell: 993-8591  
janetast@sbeglobal.net

*... I'll see you out  
on the golf course!*



## *Important Notice*

Any account that is past due 90 days will be automatically sent to 14 day pre-collection and handled by our collection firm. If any accounts is 120 days delinquent, golfing privileges will be suspended until the account is satisfied.

## *Email*

If you are not receiving emails from the pro shop we probably don't have an email address for you or we have an old address that has been changed. Please send your updated email address to "proshop@willowbendgolfclub.com".  
Thank you for your help.