



Fore! Cast

Winter 2008/2009

FROM MR. & MRS. D.O.G.

Winterizing Your Golf Game:

Here are some ideas that could help you play your best golf during the winter months. Let's start with equipment. You communicate to your clubs through your hands. If your grips are old, hard or worn, you will find it difficult to make a good swing, because you will be gripping the club too tightly. This is especially true in the cold. Some hot soapy water and a good towel can do wonders for your grips. If they still aren't as tacky as you'd like, replace them. During the winter, keep your hands warm with winter golf gloves and heat packets. Wear layers of loosely fitting clothes.

Willowbend offers a wonderful winter practice opportunity. Our partially enclosed hitting facility allows practice on even the coldest of days. This building is open toward the landing area so that you can hit full shots, watch them and you can see what you're grooving. I learned years ago that hitting into a net can groove a swing you wouldn't want to take to the course! The Willowbend Pros can give lessons in the practice building. Winter lessons can really help jump start your '09 season.

Don't forget to put on your Christmas Wish List audio lessons. One of my favorites that I listen to quite often is by renowned sports psychologist Bob Rotella. There is quite a selection of CDs and DVDs at TGW to choose from.

Finally, it seems every year we discuss getting in shape and stretching during the winter months. To this part of the article I simply state, "Do as I say, not as I do."

Happy Golfing,

Rod Nuckolls

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.

TURF TALK

December is finally upon us and so too is the cold weather. It has been a great year all in all and now we are starting to see a major slowdown in the amount of grass growing and the amount of golfers golfing. We have had some trials this year like the electrical problems we faced on our irrigation system back in May. Like the endless rains that kept us pushing sand back up in the bunkers and pumping tunnels. Like the sink hole that kept sinking on #7 or the bridge on #17 that nearly washed out. It has been a busy year taking care of all the usual chores and addressing these extras as well. This is the time of year where we get caught up on the duties that have stacked up in our effort to stay mowed out. We have made serious strides in that effort over the past two weeks. The sinkhole got a repair and we are crossing our fingers that it holds. The bridge got several loads of riprap and 16 bags of quickcrete to shore up its footing. We have made great progress in the amount of irrigation leaks left to repair and all of our fall seeding and fertilization is complete.

The golf course is heading into winter in very good shape – except for the rash of putter hacks on the greens. We have had five in the last eight days, three of which were on #5 green. We have had others on #2, #4, #10, #14, #15, and #17. It is never the right thing to do and certainly not acceptable behavior. Thirteen divots in the last two months is outright nonsense. We are asking that you all police your groups and either quietly let staff know who is doing this or not so quietly would be okay too. This has to stop whatever the reason.

All in all 2008 was a tremendous year for the golf course. The weather got hot but not for weeks on end. The rains came kind of timely and the heat stayed away long enough behind storms to dry out some. Disease pressures were very high all season long but we kept on top of that for the most part. Since we weren't irrigating all that much early on we didn't accrue nearly as many leaks. Don't get me wrong, there were still far too many. This fall the weather could not be better for healing. Lets hope winter moves through without too much damage and 2009 is as good or better. 744-0400

Below is a refresher on how and why frost forms even when it's relatively warm out.

Frost is an interesting process that occurs on clear cold nights when turfgrass plants reradiate heat. As this heat is lost to the atmosphere the plant leaf cools, and if the plant temperature is cooler than the air temperature than moisture from the atmosphere will condense on the leaf. If the leaf temperature is below freezing then the water freezes and frost forms even if the air temperatures are slightly above freezing. At this time of the year it is not uncommon to have frost form even if the air temperature is in the mid to high 30's.

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Frost does not form as readily on cloudy nights because the clouds reflect, or absorb and then reradiate the energy back towards the turf. Thus, the plants receive heat from this re-radiation. Frost also does not form as readily under conditions where a breeze is present. Through convection the mixing air closest to the plant and the atmosphere buffers the leaf temperature drop (also promotes evaporation of the water droplets from the leaf). Areas with little slope have a greater potential for frost than sloping areas (air moves downward resulting in a mixing).

Frost will normally form early in the morning before sunrise. This makes sense because if the plants have been reradiating energy throughout the night, the leaf temperature should be the coolest prior to daybreak. Actually frost may continue to form briefly even at daybreak due to the low angles of light coming from the sun may not directly hit the leaf.

Most damage caused by frost is generally superficial. This is not to say that traffic should be allowed on frosted turf. If traffic occurs, whether it is foot or mechanical, damage caused by "crushing" the leaf blade will occur. The damaged turf will then turn a straw color.

Men's Club Results

None to report

Ladies Club Results

None to report



*Specializing
in
Willowbend!*

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



Coming Events - January 2009

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13 Half Price Guest Day	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Coming Events - February 2009

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 Half Price Guest Day	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

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.
Jan Nuckolls	Office Manager

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.