

THE OSPREY

The official newsletter of Black Hall Club



IN THIS ISSUE

- **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**
- **REPORT FROM THE TREASURER HOUSE**
- **MEMBERSHIP**
- **ALL ABOUT THE GREENS**
- **GOLF PRO'S REPORT**



President's Message

Dr. Henry S. Amdur, president@blackhallclub.com

Message to the Members of Black Hall Club

As I write, summer has tipped into fall. The long days of July and August always feel too short in number, but this year's dry weather provided excellent conditions for play—perhaps the best we've ever had. While the highlight of our calendar was hosting the Connecticut Open, each member and guest will carry their own special memories of the 2025 season. And it's not over yet—plenty of great golf remains for those willing to add a layer or two.

Two important events are still ahead:

- Men's Closing Day Tournament – October 4, 2025
- Annual Meeting & Governors' Cocktail Party – October 11, 2025 at 4:00 PM

On September 12, the Governors hosted the Past Presidents' Gathering—a moment to honor fellow members who have served in leadership roles at BHC. We were also fortunate to welcome a special guest, Dennis Dungee, Executive Director of the Connecticut Section PGA, who facilitated an engaging and educational discussion.

President's message continued

Here is an excerpt from my welcoming remarks that day:

"Welcome, Honored Guests,

Everyone gathered here today is part of something truly special—a 60-year legacy of Black Hall Club leadership, past, present, and future. Each of you has given generously of your time, talents, and vision to help shape and sustain this club. What began as the dream of our Founders has, through your dedication, grown into one of the premier golf experiences in Connecticut.

Leadership is rarely easy and often thankless. At Black Hall, we are unique in that our direction is not dictated by a corporation, but by us—the Members. Setting priorities, making decisions, and shaping the future requires great commitment. Today, as the current Governors, we pause to express our deep gratitude to our past leaders—for guiding the club to where it stands today. The pride and joy our Members feel in this refuge are the direct result of the hard work and care that all of you have poured into our community.

We are especially grateful to our honored guests who continue to lend their wisdom and energy to the club, as well as to our "gang of 12" Governors, who are carrying the torch forward for the next generation of golf enthusiasts. Gatherings like this give us the chance to celebrate our shared efforts, strengthen our fellowship, and enjoy one another's company."

Looking ahead, Committee Chairpersons will be assembling their committees over the winter. The Board values your input and expertise—we encourage you to volunteer in areas that match your interests and talents.

Finally, I would like to thank Ian Featherstone for his nine years of dedicated service to the Club. Ian has provided thoughtful and balanced input throughout his tenure on the Board of Governors, the Executive Committee, the Green Committee, and the Long-Range Planning Committee, as well as serving as my Vice President. His steady leadership and commitment have been invaluable to Black Hall.

See you all at the Annual Meeting!



Report from the Treasurer

Rich Bacci, treasurer@blackhallclub.com

Looking Ahead with Confidence

Over the past several years, we have made several strategic investments in the golf course and the club house while maintaining strong finances that provide a solid platform for starting each new fiscal year. As we enter fiscal year 2026, the budget was constructed to provide sufficient funding for ongoing operations, continued investment in equipment and club facilities, and allows the club to remain debt free and maintain a healthy cash reserve.

House

Tammy Sparrow,
housechair@blackhallclub.com



A Fond Farewell to Our Head Chef

After 11 wonderful years with the Black Hall family, Kathy Lane, our Head Chef, has decided to retire at the end of this season. During her time at Black Hall, Kathy has delighted us all with her delicious meals and exceptional service. She often described Black Hall as her “happy place” and the very best job of her forty-plus-year career.

Although it was a difficult decision, Kathy is excited to begin a new chapter, spending more time with her husband, Tom, and her five beautiful grandchildren. She will be deeply missed, but we send her off with heartfelt thanks and our very best wishes for this next adventure.

October marks the beginning of the new fiscal year at Black Hall, and minimums will go into effect starting October 1. The dining room will remain open Tuesday through Sunday from 11:30 AM to 2:30 PM until Sunday, October 19.

A big thank-you to Kathy and her staff for another fantastic season!

Locker Reminders: If you're heading to warmer weather, please ensure your locker is unlocked and emptied. For those staying, lockers must be emptied by December 31. Lockers will be cleaned in January and February and will be available for use again starting March 1. Charges will appear on the March statement.



Annual Meeting & Party



Oct. 11th @ 4pm

In the Dining Room

***Agenda posted on club
bulletin board**

Administrative Corner

Reminder: Dues Installments

The first of six monthly dues installments will appear on your October statement, which will be sent to you by mail or email early November.

- If you normally receive your statement by email and don't see it, please check your spam folder.
- If you still have not received it, kindly contact Nancy at Office@blackhallclub.com.
- If you would like to pay your dues in full instead of installments, please also reach out to Nancy.

Stay tuned this winter for the launch of our new website with online payments and statement viewing!

Membership

Steph Brodeur, membership@blackhallclub.com

Considering a Change? Here's How Dues Refunds Work

We love having you as part of the Black Hall family and hope you'll continue to enjoy all that our club has to offer for years to come. That said, we understand that life sometimes takes us in different directions. If you do find yourself considering a resignation, we want to make sure you're aware of how our dues refund process works.

Refund Schedule:

- October 1 – October 31 → 100% of dues refunded
- November 1 – November 30 → 67% refunded
- December 1 – December 31 → 33% refunded
- After January 1 → No refunds are available

If this is something you're thinking about, please reach out to Lacey, Membership Services, so she can guide you through the process. And of course, if you have questions—or just want to talk through your options—we're always here to help.



New Members!

Black Hall would like to extend a sincere welcome to the following new members:
*Jason & Molly Gabriele (RF)

Invite to A-Waitlist

- *Bill Rosa (RS)
- *Arthur Romeo (RF)
- *Dave Wurzer (RS)
- *Will Lindenmayer (RF)



The following candidates have been proposed for membership:

<u>Candidate</u>	<u>Proposer</u>	<u>Second</u>
Kevin Clark	Henry Amdur	Robert Ferreira
Matthew Hummel	Matthew Gaunci	Nathan Owen
Craig Millard	Paul Millard	Tom Dolan

Memories from the 91st Connecticut Open

A big thank-you goes out to Richard Strauss, who shared his talent behind the camera during the 91st Connecticut Open this July at Black Hall.

Richard spent the week capturing the action, the excitement, and the special moments both on and off the course. From great shots on the fairways and greens to candid smiles around the clubhouse, his photos highlight everything that makes this tournament so memorable. To help us all relive the event, Richard has created a beautiful photo book featuring some of his favorite images from the week.

[Click here to flip through the photo book](#)

We're so grateful to Richard for capturing the spirit of the Open and giving us such a fun way to look back on an incredible tournament!

All About the Greens

Marty Smith, greenchair@blackhallclub.com

Drainage Improvements on 8 and 14th Greens Slated for October



We are planning to install the XGD Drainage System on 8 and 14 greens this month. This system was installed on the 17th green this spring and the results far exceeded our expectations. The 17th green went from being one of our problem greens to being one of our healthiest after the drainage was installed.

The attached link describes the process. A crew of experienced technicians expertly remove long strips of sod and install trench drains across the entire putting service. After the drains are installed, the trench is filled with blended root zone mix, and the sod is meticulously put back. Each green takes about three days, after which play can resume.

Over the last three years, Chris has taken representative samples of the sub-surface of our putting greens. The

sampling confirms there is a wide disparity in soil quality and drainage among many of our greens. The worst greens were 8, 14 and 17. Samples taken from those greens indicated they had very low permeability. Subsequently, root growth was restricted, and the highly saturated conditions resulted in poor plant health and susceptibility for failure during periods of high stress that typically occurs between July 15 and August 15.

The XGD system is going to greatly benefit 8 and 14th green. We also have plans to continue our improvements of the greens by instituting the “Drill and Fill” aeration practice next fall.

This is a new procedure that we hope to implement. The USGA will be coming back to Black Hall next May and we will have a meeting with the membership to discuss the procedure.

Our goal is to systematically improve the sub soil health of all of our greens, so they are strong enough to support better playing conditions for longer periods throughout the season.

The New 60





Golf Pro's Report

Andrew Campbell, pro@blackhallclub.com

Men's Tournament Results

FALL MEMBER-MEMBER

Saturday and Sunday, September 20th & 21st

Overall

- 1st - Greg DeMichiel & Brice Craven - 135
- 2nd - Rich Paterson & Pete Lewis - 137.5
- 3rd - Andy Balosie & Steve Merrick - 139.5
- 4th - John Maloney & Bill Buckley - 140.5



FALL MEMBER-GUEST

Friday, September 26th



Best 2 of 4 Net

- 1st - Nick Paradis, Phil Eident, Mike Mawdsley & Brent Knight - 118
- 2nd - Deane Antoniou, Jim Serhant, Jim Bonfiglio, & Eric Bukowski - 122
- 3rd - Chris Lafond, Pat Donegan, Mike Morhardt, & Paul Keblish - 123

Best 2 of 4 Gross

- 1st - Tony Stratidis, Tony Ponte, Anthony Guerrera, & Spencer Baughn - 124
- 2nd - Tom Kelly, Angelo DeFazio, Michael Wholey, & Michael Hall - 139

Upcoming Tournaments

MEN'S GOLF

MEN'S CLOSING DAY

Saturday, October 4th, 9:00am shotgun



REGISTER NOW

WOMEN'S GOLF

LADIES DAYS - FALL GOLF

Wednesday, October 1st

Wednesday, October 8th



REGISTER NOW

SAVE THE DATE

MIXED GOLF

THE 2ND ANNUAL SUPERINTENDENT'S REVENGE GOLF TOURNAMENT

Saturday, November 1st

- ALL members welcome to play
- 2 person teams, male, female or mixed
- Play in your own groups and tee off before noon

More Information will follow!

Sign up on Golf Genius; GGID: BHCMIXED

Golf Pro's Report continued

Women's Tournament Results



Osprey Cup

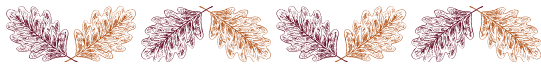
Wednesday, August 27th

Overall

1st - Pat Ermler & Ethel Davis - 99

2nd - Mary Featherstone & Lissa Kapust - 103

3rd - Joan Wright & Audrey Charlson - 107



REMINDERS

COLUMBUS/

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY:

Mon, October 13TH: Golf Course OPENS
at 12PM (As of now)

GOLF HOURS:

Mondays: Golf Course & Range

OPEN @ 12PM

Tuesday-Friday: Golf Course

OPENS @ 8AM

Wknds & Holidays: Golf Course

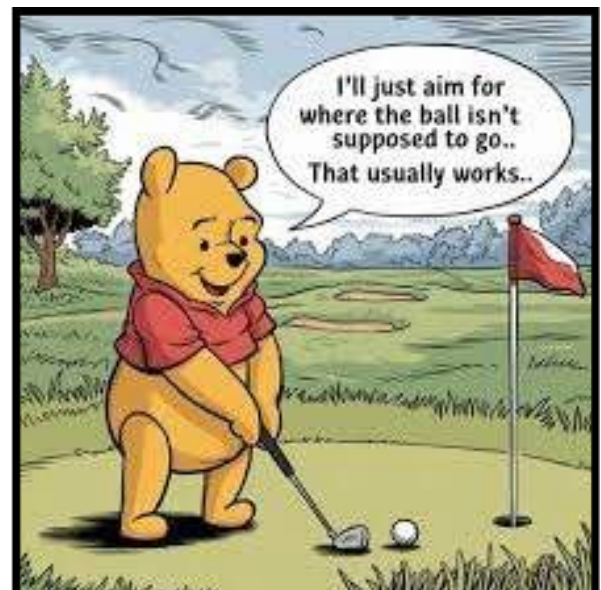
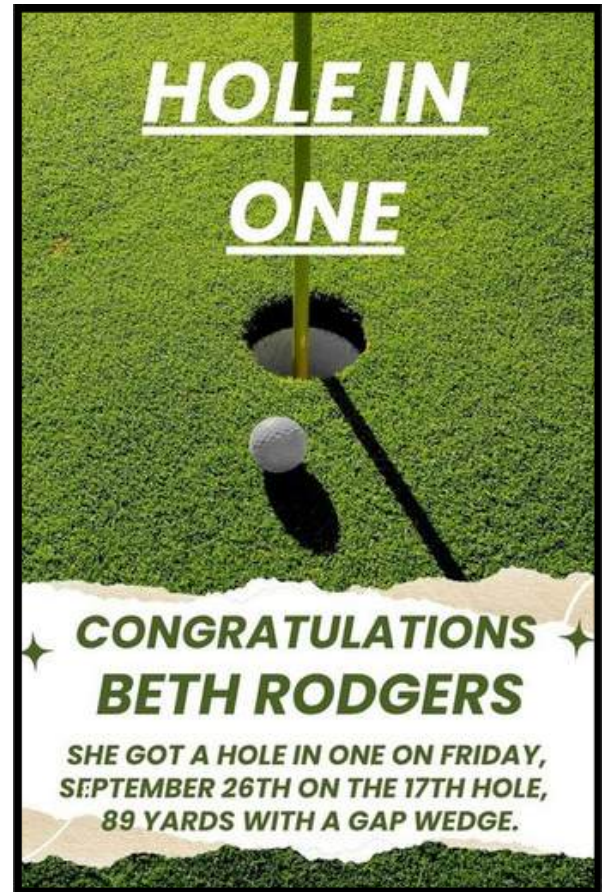
OPENS @ 7:30AM

DINING HOURS:

Tues-Sun: 11:30AM - 2:30PM

*Dining Room & Bag Room

CLOSES Oct. 26th



Golf Shop News

Golf Shop Credit

Golf shop credit runs on a two-year cycle where at the end of the second year, all balances must be used. October 1st 2025 marked the end of that two-year cycle. If you have not yet used your credit, please do so as soon as possible. However, with any purchases at this point using shop credit, please choose from our present inventory in the golf shop.

Demo Club Return Reminder

As the season winds down, it's time to gather up our demo clubs. Each fall, these clubs must be returned to the manufacturers as part of our annual inventory process. If you currently have a demo driver, iron, or putter out on loan, please return it to the Golf Shop as soon as possible so we can complete this step. Haven't had a chance to get by the club? Give us a quick call to let us know—we're happy to work with you. Thank you for helping us keep this program running smoothly for everyone!

Pro Tip: Fall Golf is All About Layering

Cooler mornings and crisp afternoons don't mean the golf season is winding down—it just means it's time to rethink your wardrobe! The key is lightweight layers: start with breathable shirts, add a pullover or vest, and top it off with a windproof jacket. This way you'll stay comfortable throughout the round without feeling bulky. Stop by the Golf Shop to check out our latest fall apparel—we've got fresh styles and performance pieces to keep you both warm and looking sharp.



October 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28	29	30	1 LADIES DAY FALL GOLF	2	3	4 MEN'S CLOSING DAY 9:00AM SHOTGUN BREAKFAST AT 8:00AM
5	6 GOLF COURSE & PRACTICE RANGE OPEN AT 12PM	7	8 LADIES DAY FALL GOLF	9	10	11 ANNUAL MEETING & GOVENORS COCKTAIL PARTY 4:00PM
12	13 GOLF COURSE & PRACTICE RANGE OPEN AT 12PM COLUMBUS/ INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY	14	15	16	17	18
19 DINING ROOM CLOSE FOR THE SEASON	20 GOLF COURSE & PRACTICE RANGE OPEN AT 12PM	21	22	23	24	25
26 BAG ROOM CLOSE FOR THE SEASON	27 GOLF COURSE & PRACTICE RANGE OPEN AT 12PM	28	29	30	31  HALLOWEEN	1