

THE OSPREY

The official newsletter of Black Hall Club



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President's Message

Tony Stratidis, president@blackhallclub.com

With Spring and the start of the 2024 golf season just around the corner, I am pleased to report that Black Hall Club is in good physical and financial shape. Our various winter projects are wrapping up and our finances are tracking to the budget.

The Board of Governors wishes to thank all the members who have contributed to the Black Hall Club Post Clock and encourage those who have not yet contributed to do so.

Thank you to our committee chairs, their committee members and our dedicated staff in making BHC a great place!

Looking forward to another great golf season!

House

Tammy Sparrow, house@blackhallclub.com

The House Committee is looking forward to another golf season. The dining room will open for the season on Saturday, April 13th. As a reminder, current locker renters will be automatically billed in March. Your March statement will also include handicap and tournament (men/women) fees.

If you would like to rent a locker this season or cancel your locker rental please contact Nancy.

Locker fees for 2024 remain unchanged: Half lockers - \$80, Shoe lockers - \$45.

Don't hesitate to reach out if you have suggestions for the House Committee. I may be contacted by phone at 860- 304-9470 or via email at housechair@blackhall.com.

All About the Greens

Marty Smith, greenchair@blackhallclub.com

Tree work continues this winter, with work being done by both our in-house maintenance team and an outside contractor. The trees that have been identified for removal are based on the recommendation of the Superintendent and approved by the Green Committee.

The criteria for making the list are safety, tree and turf health and playability. The amount of work done annually is based on the work that can be performed in-house, and the budget allocated to hire an outside contractor. Our in-house team gets an impressive amount done every year, which is a significant savings over having it done by outside contractors.

Some of the work done this winter was also identified by the USGA, but it is only a small portion of what has been recommended.

As previously mentioned, a lot of work has been done in the left rough of the 4 th hole, which is part of a project to improve the health of the rough and the fairway. A significant amount of work has been done around the 8 th green. Trees are being removed around the green which should allow for improvements to the health of the green and the surrounding turfgrass. Three trees were removed by the 1 st tee. Removal of these trees will improve the health of the tee box turfgrass and surrounds and stop further damage to the cart path caused by the tree roots. The area around the first tee will be seeded and resodded as needed. Large pines are being removed from the rear of the 12 th green. These trees have blocked a significant amount of sunlight needed by the green and for the health of the turf around the green.

Feel free to email me should you have any questions.



Membership

Steph Brodeur, membership@blackhallclub.com

We are currently at full membership but request your help building our membership waitlists. Our members are the heartbeat of Black Hall, and YOU can make it even more legendary.

Here are some exclusive perks to share about Black Hall:

- **Members' Only Magic:** We keep it cozy with a small, exclusive regular membership capped at 300 Equity members. You're not a number; you're family.
- **Tee Time Freedom:** No more clock-watching! With no tee times, our regular members stroll onto the course whenever the golfing bug bites.
- **Exercise Your Swing:** Practice makes perfect, and our excellent driving range and putting green are just a stone's throw from the first tee. Pro tip: The shorter the walk, the better the swing!
- **Master the Short Game:** Our Front-of-the-Property Short Game Practice Area is where legends refine their craft. A hole-in-one isn't a fluke; it's a skill!
- **Winter Wonderland:** Jack Frost won't keep us away! Our Winter Indoor Practice Area ensures you stay on top of your game, even when the course is under a snowy blanket.
- **Vibrant Community:** Social butterflies, rejoice! We're not just a club; we're a vibrant community with Member-Members, Member-Guests, Tournaments, and other golf themed social gatherings. Get ready to tee up the fun!
- **Financial Flexibility:** No debt hanging over our heads! With cash reserves, you can golf with peace of mind.
- **Four Seasons of Fun:** Black Hall is not a fair-weather friend. Our course is open year-round, so you can swing through spring, summer, fall, and even winter!
- **Exclusive Events:** We keep it "First Class" and limit outside events, ensuring our members get the VIP treatment they deserve.
- **Money Talks:** Your bond is like a security blanket. It's refundable if you ever decide to bid adieu to the club.
- **Finance with Finesse:** We've got options! Finance your membership with a smile, making joining the Black Hall family a breeze.

So, what are you waiting for? Appeal to your friends, your family, your neighbors, maybe even your coworkers, and let's grow our Black Hall family!



Welcome
NEW MEMBERS

Black hall would like to extend a sincere welcome to the following Members

- Hugh Hunter
- Thomas "Marc" Flood

INVITATION TO THE A-WAITLIST

- Jason McKiernan

The following candidates have been proposed for membership:

Candidate	Proposer	Seconder
Jason McKiernan	Tom Cherry	Dave Faenza




We Are Nearly There!



Swing into Generosity!

Chip In for Our Post Clock Project and help recognize the members who have made Black Hall what it is today, and what it will continue to be in the future.

Interested in making a donation? Please send donations to P.O. Box 278, Old Lyme, CT 06371, or contact Nancy and add it to your account.





Golf Pro's Report

Andrew Campbell, pro@blackhallclub.com



The golf staff is excited to get going with the 2024 golf season! While work preparations continue behind the scenes, we are planning on opening the golf shop on Friday, March 15th, at which time guest play may begin again for the season. Additionally, we have scheduled the practice range to open on Friday, April 6th. In the meantime, if you should need anything or have any questions, I can be reached by email.

The 2024 Calendar is on our website and can be accessed without logging in to your account. It can be found at the bottom of the home page as well as inside the Member Page after log-in. We will continue to use Golf Genius and the App for all of our events, however, it is not yet active for the coming year until further notice.

There will be a change in the golf staff for the coming season. Carter Thornton has accepted a new position at the Colts Neck Golf Club in Colts Neck, New Jersey. Carter is returning back to his hometown to take on a great opportunity of lead Assistant and Teaching Professional. Carter was an extremely loyal and conscientious team member for five seasons and I am so grateful to him for sharing his passion for people and the game. While he will be sorely missed by myself and the entire Black Hall family, we are also very excited for his next move and his future.

Many of you know Andrew Ferrucci, who has been on staff for a few years. Andrew is now a registered PGA Assistant Professional and will join Brian, myself and Lacey on the golf staff in 2024. Andrew is currently working at Panther National in Palm Beach, Florida for the winter months before returning this Spring.

GET STARTED

If you would like to get off on the right foot this Spring and you don't want to wait until the range opens for a lesson or a club fitting, I am available until that time to help in the indoor nets. I have the technology with my own launch monitor and video to effectively teach and fit for new equipment. Simply send me an email to schedule some time together and kick start the season.

OPENING DAY



MEN'S GOLF

The Men will kick off with the "Scrambled Egg" tournament on Saturday, April 20th.

The tournament will be an A-B-C-D blind draw, with a "Scramble" format.

The tournament will be an A-B-C-D blind draw, with a "Scramble" format. A buffet breakfast will start serving at 8:00am, golf will begin at 9:00am and the day will be rounded out with awards and a luncheon.

Breakfast, prizes and lunch are all included in the Men's Club annual fee. [Click here](#) for full schedule of events!



Golf Pro's Report Continued:

OPENING DAY



Women's golf will begin with their Opening Day on Wednesday, May 15th .

This is a fun nine hole event with a shotgun start of 8:45am with an 11:00am meeting and luncheon.

BHWGA will have two Wednesdays of "Spring Golf" on May 1st and May 8th , which will offer organized golf options prior to Opening Day.

[Click Here](#) for a full schedule of events



TITLEIST PROV1 LOYALTY PROMOTION



This has become a tradition for many of you...Order personalized golf balls and get 4 dozen for the price of 3!

Stock up for the summer or get a great gift for someone or even commemorate a golf trip you are planning! An email will be sent very soon with more information.



JUNIOR CLINICS



SAVE THE DATES!

JUNE
18-20

Session One

9:00am - 11:00am or
11:00am - 1:00pm

JULY
9-11

Session Two

9:00am - 11:00am or
11:00am - 1:00pm

AUGUST
13-15

Session Three

10:00am - 12:00pm



IMPORTANT DATES

MAR 15

Golf Shop Opens

APR 1

Indoor Nets Close

APR 6

Practice Range Opens

APR 13

Dining Room & Bag Room are Opens

APR 20

Men's Opening Day Scramble

APR 30

Women's Clinics Begin

MAY 1

Ladies Day Starts

