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**“The Tee Box”©**

***“The Only Official Newsletter of Rolling In Golf Club”***

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***HAPPY HOLIDAYS***

**HOLIDAY GREETINGS FROM THE LAND WHERE PALM TREES SWAY . . . . . . . . . . . . DAVID FAILURETEE, EDITOR**

Yes indeed, it is nice spending the holidays among the palm trees, palmetto bushes, and Bermuda grass. However, that is all I will say so I am not accused of rubbing it in. Some RIGC’ers have inquired as to what I’m up to in these parts, so I’ll pass along a few details, hopefully for your enjoyment. And, actually, there is RIGC news to communicate to you because the Executive Committee met on November 28 during which a number of issues were discussed and a few decisions made. Details of that meeting have been relayed to me by committee members and that is included in this issue as well.

Easy on the egg nog . . . . . . . . . . D. F.

**RIGC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETS ON NOVEMBER 28**

The Executive Committee of RIGC met at 5th Tavern on November 28 and discussed a full range of topics. First on the agenda was the amount of dues to be charged for 2017. The committee reviewed proposed budgets for several dues amounts. After a lengthy discussion the committee voted to set the 2017 dues at $125. This amount will provide funds for the various post round social events, and enable the restoration of a couple of events which were scrapped in 2016. Rod Cooper presented a preliminary schedule of events for 2017. The annual Spring meeting will be held on Saturday, April 8. Opening day will be on April 26, after a couple of practice rounds. Match play will be started on May 17 and May 24. On those days play in matches will be held to establish the field of 32 for the President’s Medallion Match Play Championship which will begin on June 7. There will be holiday break on July 5. The first round of the club championship will be on August 2, and the final round will be held on August 16. The annual Member-Member event will be on August 23, and on August 30 the JUG Championship will be held. The desire was to conclude the “Quest For The JUG” prior to Labor Day in 2017. Also in 2017 JUG points will be awarded in the match play event, and also for team events. The Member/Guest Invitational will be held on September 13, and it will be followed on September 20 by the Mayor’s Yellow Ball Challenge. The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be in March, 2017, and the decisions made at that meeting will be communicated to you during the Spring meeting on April 8. All of this will give you something to eagerly anticipate over the bleak Winter months.

 **WHAT’S UP WITH YOUR EDITOR?**

You may recall if you read the previous wrap up edition of this publication that my plan was to spend the Winter months in a warmer climate, and would be performing reporting duties on golf action for several local groups, just as I did for RIGC. Well, that is underway and here are some details of that activity for those who have expressed interest.

First is the Bassville Senior Skippers. This is a group of about 16 players which plays on Monday mornings at the same course every week, Bass Valley G. C. Mostly the weekly golf exists just to provide a brief break from fishing for large mouth bass. The parking lot at the club is unique as there’s a large area designated for parking by vehicles pulling bass boats, and it’s always full. I’ve played with this group twice and it’s interesting that at the start of the round the talk is about a 2 pound largemouth recently caught, and by the end of the round that fish has grown to 10 pounds. The competition is the same every week. The player with the lowest net score gets to take an artificial lure from the tackle box of the player who had the highest net score. There is ongoing controversy regarding the handicaps as they are calculated by one person who refuses to divulge his method of computation. Curiously, this is the same guy who also reportedly has the best collection of artificial lures among the group.

Next is the Ocklawaha Nine Holers. This is a group of a dozen guys who play nine holes on Wednesdays at 5:00. Really, the round starts at 3:00 at Gator Jakes Bar & Grill, and the group then returns to this joint for a couple of hours after the round. It appears that wearing denim is required, with denim shorts being worn in hot weather. Again, I’ve played with this group twice and have yet to see a pair of golf shoes. Play is conducted every week at the Chip n Dale G. C. During the two hours at Jakes prior to the round names are drawn to determine whose clubs you will play with that day. Doesn’t appear to make much difference as all of the club sets are equally obsolete. I haven’t totally figured out the game that is played every week. But the following seems to be involved: the number of tees broken or lost, the number of beers consumed during the round, and the total strokes taken on the worst hole. Something tells me this game will not be found in any USGA publications. The betting is settled not by dollars, but, of course, by beers at Jakes after the round.

The next group is the Weirsdale Weirdos. This is a group that reminds me of RIGC, and plays on Friday mornings. It’s a large group of about 40 players, most of who wear reasonable golf clothing and are all in possession of what resembles golf shoes. One individual basically runs the group, and he’s referred to by the rest of the players as “The Imperial Weirdo”. This group is entirely retirees who reside in local retirement communities (but here they call them active lifestyle communities), sorry. The group plays at a rotating selection of courses in the area, some involving a trip of up to five miles. But, that doesn’t lessen the complaints about having to drive so far to play golf. The group purportedly maintains official USGA handicap indexes. When asked who posts their scores to the GHIN system most responded that they didn’t know, but it could be some unfortunate soul in the group who is stuck with that job. A number were surprised to learn that GHIN isn’t what they mix with dry vermouth. I’m also told the group follows USGA rules, however, having played with this group three times I’ve seen: balls being rolled multiple inches, questionable drops, switching balls to be used for putting, lengthy gimmes, among other things. The weekly wager is $2. Still though, comments regarding the wager being too high are frequent. The weekly games are somewhat inscrutable as well. The players throw out terms such as skins, greenies, net score, and flights, but when I questioned players further I was normally confronted with totally blank stares. Sadly, I was informed that the group has been banished from some courses in the area for slow play, and I admonished them to do something about that, quickly.

The final group is the Lady Lake Not Ladies. Yep, that’s the name. It’s my only experience with reporting on female golfers. Eye opening to say the least. First, the language that is offered forth, whoa! Yes sir, it would most certainly make a sailor blush. I had no idea there were so many words to describe the male and female genitalia. And I’m a journalist! As for their clothing and appearance. Let me say that there’s a proper time and place for spandex. But to be fair, a number of the ladies appear to enjoy spending someone else’s money to purchase top of the line women’s golf attire. Unfortunately, the word got out that I am currently an unattached male. That created a stir amongst some of the players, and what you often hear is basically correct. If you are single male with a pulse it’s open season on you.

Made me feel just like a piece of meat. There’s a weekly newsletter for the group which includes my blurbs and it’s called “THE PAP SMEAR”, a name that existed long before I showed up on the scene. The couple of times I’ve played with this bunch I made a very hasty exit as soon as the round ended, and didn’t stay around for the white wine & salads. But, to be honest, the mid-round offer to stop by after the round for a casserole was appealing in some cases. Perhaps sometime . . . maybe.