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**“The Tee Box”©**

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

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**It’s March, Golf Is Getting Closer . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . David Failuretee**

From all the way down here in Fla La Land I can sense your eagerness to get the 2018 season underway. It will be there soon, I promise. I’m told there’s a golf show in your area this weekend, check it out, should help. Just got off the phone with one of your Executive Committee members, told me what transpired in the committee meeting held on 3-8. I agreed to pass a few items along.

**2018 Preview . . . . . . . . . . . . . DF**

Your Executive Committee met on 3-8 and I’ve been given the go ahead to pass along a few items from the meeting. Dues to join will remain the same as last year, $125. Of that, $24 will be for your 2018 Golf Association of Michigan dues.

Julian Almany will be the first person to be inducted into the Rolling In Golf Club Hall of Fame. Julian was a member who came to us on the second year of our existence. He passed away in 2016. You will be able to learn more about Julian and this honor on the RIGC website soon.

The 2018 playing schedule has been finalized. There will be 8 team events in 2018: Ramble Scramble on May 30, Triple Threat on July 18, Member-Member on August 1, Double Trouble on August 8, Member Guest Invitational on August 16/17, Yellow Ball on August 29, and two Team Match Play events on September 19 and 26.

I’m curious to see how the new Ramble Scramble event turns out, haven’t seen an event like this at the other clubs I cover. It’s a four person event playing a “Step Aside” scramble. Each team can include one non-RIGC member (male or female). Only two team members can have handicap indexes less than 10, and the total handicap index for the team has to be at least 36. You should already be organizing a team for this. The winning team gets their entry paid into a GAM Team Scramble qualifier. If you have a team, it sounds like you should go ahead and register with GAM for one of the qualifying rounds, those do fill up. To find out the dates and locations of the qualifiers contact Rod Cooper or go onto GAM website and up on a ribbon is Scramble, click that on.

The President’s Medallion Match Play Championship will be contested on these dates: round 1 on May 16, round 2 on May 23, round 3 on June 6, round 4 on June 13, and the championship match on June 20.

The two rounds of the Club Championship will be on these dates: June 27 at Metamora, and July 25 at Pine Knob.

The JUG Shoot Out will be played at Dunham Hills on September 5.The Member-Guest Invitational will be played this year on Friday, August 17, again at Metamora. Start lining up a partner now.

There will be ten open play events on these dates: May 2, May 9, May 23 (in conjunction with match play), June 6, 13, and 20 (all three dates in conjunction with match play), July 11, August 22 (pot luck picnic following this at the home of Ron Graham), September 5 (in conjunction with the JUG Shoot-Out), and the last one will be on September 12.

There will be an important change for the open play events this year. Members will be asked to volunteer to be the host(s) for one, or more, of the open play events. You’ll hear more about this at the Spring meeting to be held at 5th Tavern on Saturday, April 14.

The topic of slow pace of play was discussed at length. It sounds like it’s still an issue for your club. It was reported there are several host courses for RIGC events that have expressed concern about the club’s slow play, which is not good. The Committee discussed adopting three local rules to hopefully speed up play. Those would be; drop for a lost ball with no hitting of provisional, treat bordering wooded areas, and out-of-bounds as lateral hazards, and having a maximum score per hole of triple bogey. These are still under consideration and if you have thoughts you’re asked to pass them along to a member of the Executive Committee. Just an FYI, my clubs here in the land of Bermuda grass have adopted rules along these lines, it helps. The rounds at the clubs I cover typically take a maximum of 4.5 hours, and there are plenty of guys who bitch about that being too long. I’m a big proponent of such local rules as well. Anything that has the potential to speed up play should be seriously considered.

**Predictions Revisited . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . DF**

In the previous issue of The Tee Box I boldly predicted that Tiger Woods would not win an event this year, although he will contend in a few. Well, I may have to swallow that prediction. He’s playing very well, very impressive. Could it possibly be that some of the old Tiger intimidation could return and affect some of these young guns? Possible. Looks like it could be a very interesting PGA Tour season, and this old ink stained wretch is getting rejuvenated!

**Spring Meeting On April 14**

The annual spring meeting of your club will be held on Saturday, April 14, at the customary location, 5th Tavern on Telegraph Road. Much good information will be covered during the meeting, and you can bring payment for your 2018 dues to the meeting.

Hang in there a little longer, golf is only weeks away . . . . . . . . . . . . . DF