

May TLQMC President's Newsletter

Last month made me think of Yogi Berra, not because it was Spring Training but because of one of his famous quotes, "It's Deja vu all over again". During April we revisited three items.

Tee Box Selection

After many months of surveys, opinion polls, valuable input from the general membership and much debate among the Board of Directors, a decision was made about which tees members may play from beginning May 12, 2014. The official decision can be found on our website, under Board Communications. In case you haven't seen the official version, in a nutshell:

1. Members may choose Blue or Gold tees.
2. Individual competition will be divided into Blue and Gold flights.
3. In team competition, Blue tee players will have strokes added (no one will have to give up hard earned strokes!).
4. The Member/Guest and Dry Heat Tournaments will be played from the Gold tees.
5. **"No Game" Option** was introduced. When a player desires not to play in the posted game on a given week, if room is available, a player may sign-up for the "No game" option.

Course Rating Recalculated

On April 16th, the SCGA rerated the Men's tees for our course. The rating team consisted of five, two-person crews. Bart Fowler, Bill Smith and I each joined one of the crews. The day began at 6:45 with about 2.5 hours of course measurements and observations. After the measurements were done, all of us then played the course to further evaluate how the morning measurements and observations came into play.

The entire process is very well defined, but not extremely precise. Briefly, all measurements were taken four paces from the back of the Blue tee boxes and Gold tee boxes. The ratings for the other tee boxes are extrapolated depending on how far they are from the tee boxes that were used for the evaluation. Then the course is measured and observed from the distances attained by someone who hits a drive 250 yards and, by someone who hits a drive 200 yards. Then measurements and observations are made from all of the landing spots of the second and/or third shot theoretical landing areas.

Things that affect course difficulty include: width of fairways, trees, ability to see the green from the different landing areas, fairway bunkers, etc. Some of the interesting things learned about our course were: some of the bunkers we all consider as "greenside" bunkers (like on holes 5 or 13) are actually rated as "fairway" bunkers for players that hit their drives 200 yards or less. The reason is that that player is probably hitting his third shot to those greens from the fairway. Also, for your own entertainment the next time you play, on Hole 13 check to see how much of the green is visible from 150 yards and from 80 yards. Our ability to see that green is another reason that particular hole is, shall we say, a little challenging.

As of this writing, we have not received the results from the SCGA. However, when we do, we will work with the golf course to get cards printed that properly reflect the latest rating.

Reelection of Board of Directors

At the March 31 General Membership meeting, the current Board of Directors was reelected to serve in the same capacities for the 2014-2015 season. The board members are:

President – Gary Turner
Vice President – Duane Barringer
Secretary – Bart Fowler
Treasurer – Stan Wise
Tournament Director – Neil Cortesi
Monday Play Coordinator – Steve Prosenjak
Handicap Director – John Thelen
Membership Director – Pat Martin
Website Manager – Joe Wheat

Although the Rules Committee members are not elected, they will continue to serve and deserve recognition as well:

Committee Member – Alan Barroll
Committee Member – Roland Dell
Committee Member – Bill Smith
Committee Member – Greg Henry

The Board of Directors is very appreciative of the membership's continued support. We are energized by the membership's active participation in all of our events this year and very happy with the amount of member input and feedback we get over the course of the year.

Thank you all. We look forward to another successful and fun 2014 – 2015 season.

See you on the course,
Gary