

SMITHFIELDS COUNTRY CLUB FEBRUARY 2021 NEWSLETTER

SHOP HOURS:

MON- 12:00-6:00

TUES.-FRI- 7:30-5:30

SAT.-SUN.- 7:30-5:30

PRO SHOP #- 864-859-9545

OFFICE #- 864-855-3543

WEBSITE- WWW.SMITHFIELDS.CC

EMAIL- INFO@SMITHFIELDS.CC



AROUND THE CLUB

January saw a lot of fluctuations in temperatures and weather in general. The weather was either great for golf or too bad to do much of anything. Having said that, we're only a few weeks away from being in the full swing of golf season.

The tournament schedule is filled with opportunities to get involved and the social calendar is starting to take shape. Don't hesitate to pass along ideas for events you would like to see take place at our club...we're always glad to take a look at new and exciting suggestions.

Couple of points of interest we would like to bring to everyone's attention....

1. **Yearly handicap fees**-Your February statement will reflect the annual handicap fee charge of \$30.00.

*****You may opt out of the handicap service. However, members who do not carry a USGA handicap are ineligible to participate in club golf tournaments.**

2. **Annual Range Club Members**- If you are currently on the range plan, you will automatically be billed for 2022 (range plan runs from February-February) on March 1st. If you do not plan to participate this year, let the pro shop staff know.

If you are interested in becoming a range club member, please let the staff know and we will be glad to add you to the roster.

Range Club Fee:
Individual- \$180.00
Family- \$280.00

UPCOMING EVENTS

Super Bowl Viewing Party!

Make plans to join friends
and fellow members for
the BIG GAME!

Date: Sunday, February 13th

Time: 6:30 Kickoff



MONTHLY CALENDAR

- **Feb. 1st** - High School Golf Begins
- **Feb. 7th** - Good Guys (10:00sg)
- **Feb. 13th**- Super Bowl Viewing Party
- **Feb. 14th** - Valentine's Day
- **Feb. 18th**- Mini Member/Member or Member/Guest
- **Feb. 28th**- Foothills 2 Senior Group 10:00SG



SCC LADIES' PICKLEBALL CLUB

Our Pickleball groups have really taken off. For any of our ladies who are interested, make plans to join our SCC Ladies' Pickleball Club each Monday and Friday throughout the month. Play typically starts around 10:00am.

For more information, please contact Gail Porter @ 864.906.0499.



TURF TALK

Well, what can I say about January! December was one of the warmest on record and the golf course was greening up like it was springtime. Then January comes in with below freezing temps the first week and a week's worth of snow on the ground in the middle of the month. The weather has been nothing short of crazy.

There are some potential concerns since the weather has had some big fluctuations over the last several weeks. As I have stated in my newsletters in the fall, we plan and prepare the grass to handle dormant winter temperatures. We make sure that it's as healthy as it can be so that it can handle the winter weather. With abnormal warm temps during winter, there is a concern as to how much stored carbohydrates the grass used up to green up and grow in December. I am not overly concerned about it, but we will continue to monitor and take action if we feel that it's necessary for the plant's health.

A question that we are asked about this time of year is why do we water greens in the winter and the timing when we do have to water. We water greens on a weekly basis when we haven't had rainfall or snow. We do it to make sure the moisture levels in the green stay high to prevent greens from drying out. Why would they dry out you ask, when we have frost that is moisture in the soil that is pulled up to when temperatures get below freezing in the summertime it is dew in the winter with below freezing temps it becomes frost. Also, humidity levels are extremely low during the winter months and moisture is pulled out of the soil and into the atmosphere quicker because of the low humidity levels. So, we monitor the moisture levels in the soil to make sure that they stay at an adequate level to help protect the greens. When we must water, we try to water shortly after sunset, so the temperature is still above freezing. If we were to wait and watered in the earlier morning hours the potential for ice and longer frost delays become a potential problem.



CONT...TURF TALK

Some of the projects we have been doing during January consists of irrigation and drainage issues that have plagued us for some time. We have installed two new isolation valves on #4 and #10. We also fixed a leak behind #4 tees that was creating an issue in the road. If you have been around the clubhouse and looked down #17, you may have wondered what is going on down there and why is it taking so long. We are dealing with two issues in that area. One is a leak in the irrigation and the second and much bigger issue is fixing the drainpipe that runs from the right side of the cart path to the creek. The galvanized pipe has rusted through the bottom and water was seeping into the soil and creating the large wet area at the beginning of #17. We had to remove a section of pipe and will repair that area. Hopefully, it will dry up the area and we will cap it with sand and sod much like we did to the left side of #17 green last winter. We hope to have this large area repaired and cleaned up within the first week or so of February.

We also hope to dig a small diversion ditch behind #2 green to help keep water from flowing on the back of that green. This should keep excess water from flowing onto the green during heavy rain and wet periods. Along with that, we have dug a drainage ditch on the right side of the hole along the property line to help keep the water flowing down the right side and into the drainpipe closer to the beginning of the fairway on #2. We will try and have all of this finished up by the end of February so that we can start focusing on our winter spraying to help prevent winter and summer weeds all around the course.

Overall, the golf course has been saturated with rain and snowfall. During the winter months daylight is shorter and with that it takes longer for snow to melt and dry up wet areas. This forces us to make the Cart Path Only rule almost a daily situation. Please feel free to stop and ask me any questions that you may have, and I will gladly answer them. I hope to see you out on the course soon.

Chuck Connolly



TOURNAMENT RESULTS

Results- 2022 Tough Days

Mother Nature had a significant impact on our opening "major" of the year, our annual Tough Days Championship. The forecast for day 2 of our event was so bleak, we elected to reduce the championship to a 1-day shoot-out. Even with the bad forecast, close to 100 players showed up and braved some cold and windy conditions...not to mention some impossible pin locations.

Ironically, the same 2 teams that finished in 1st and 2nd place in last year's championship, battled it out again today. And just like last year, the team of Robbie and Nicky Biershenk, outlasted the pairing of Sean Thornton and Zach Martin to defend the title. Both teams played amazing rounds of golf in posting scores of 61 and 62.

CONT...TOURNAMENT RESULTS

Other winners....

First Flight:

1st- Robbie/Nicky Biershenk
2nd- Sean Thornton/Zach Martin
3rd- Ron Clontz/Todd Hendley

Second Flight:

1st- Wade Hyder/Joe Hamacher
2nd- Cooper Snow/Sloan Hart
3rd- Mike and Matt Ginn



Third Flight:

1st- Mike Lewallen/Fred Keith
2nd- Craig White/BJ Hill
3rd- David Armstrong/Derrick Thompson

Fourth Flight:

1st- Chad McWhite/Scott Freeman
2nd- Anthony Andrews/Mike Gasque
3rd- Greg Horne/Doug Edwards

Fifth Flight:

1st Gross- Chris Ginn/Michael Foster
2nd Gross- Robin Meredith/Billy Upton
1st Net- Gary Renner/Curtis Middleton
2nd Net- Rusty Rainey/Turner Plumley

SOCIAL NEWS

- **Thursday(s)**- Card Night
- **Monday & Thursday (s)**- Ladies Pickleball Club
- **Feb. 11th**- Dart Night
- **Feb. 13th**- Super Bowl Viewing Party
- **Feb. 14th**- Valentine's Day
- **Mar. 4th**- Low Country Social (Details to come)



SOCIAL *events*

GOLF TIP OF THE MONTH!

Get Consistent!

Grab a short iron, take your setup, then angle your back knee inward so your back foot is up on its toes. That will push the majority of your weight to your front side. From this setup, hit some half and three-quarter shots. You'll make ball-first contact with your weight forward at impact and feel a nice push off your back foot as you go through. Mix in some regular swings from your normal setup, feeling your weight firmly on your front side during the forward swing and let me know how you get on.

