



# CLUB CONNECTIONS



## Upcoming Member Events

### 8th ANNUAL AUDUBON INVITATIONAL RIVER RIDGE GOLF CLUB BAT HOUSES

You are invited to participate in a golf tournament at River Ridge Golf Club to help us to promote a bat population. Bats are one of the major predators of night flying insects. Bats eat mosquitoes, gypsy moths, Japanese beetles, and a long list of other insect pests. One bat can eat 600-1,000 mosquito-sized insects in only one hour, so there is a huge benefit in saving this valuable resource. One of the most effective and environmentally friendly ways to reduce the mosquito population near your home and on the golf course is to install a bat house. Part of your entry fee will be used to purchase several bat houses that will be installed in strategic places on the golf course.

As an Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary for golf courses, we are required to actively solicit help from the community and members of the club for projects such as this. This tournament is an avenue for you to participate in helping to purchase bat houses and installing them on the golf course.

**WHERE:** River Ridge Golf Club

**WHEN:** Saturday, February 12, 2011

**TIME:** 9:00 AM Shotgun

**FORMAT:** 4-person Superball. Choose your own team or we can pair you up.

**COST:** \$40 for members, \$60 for nonmembers (includes golf fees, lunch, prizes, and donation for Audubon activities.)

**ALL ARE WELCOME!!** This format is a great way to kick off the upcoming golf season and to help sponsor an Audubon activity at River Ridge. Sign up for this event at the pro shop or call (661-8374). Deadline is Thursday February 10<sup>th</sup>.



### Tough Day Golf Tournament February 26, 2011

**Time:** Shotgun start at 8:30 am.

**Format:** 18 hole, stroke play event. A triple bogey max score will be enforced. Will pay gross and net winners. Tournament will be preflighted by handicap.

**Tees:** You will play normal tee locations and you may play from whatever tees you would like. Hole locations will be fair, but difficult.

**Cost: \$20/person:** Includes prizes, and lunch afterwards. Menu is all beef hotdogs, hamburgers, fixins, chips, and all beverages. *50% of entry fee is going toward prizes.* You may walk or ride a cart during this event. You will be charged \$15 for a cart fee if you decide to ride.

**Ties:** All ties will be scorecard playoff using the gross score of holes 10-18. If there is still a tie we will use the last six holes, and if there is still a tie we will use the last three holes. If there is still a tie hole 18 will be used to determine the winner.

**Payout:** based on 30 participants, 6 participants/flight

50% for gross, 50% for net per flight 1st place gross-\$30, 1st place net-\$30

**\*\*Please sign up in the clubhouse by  
Wednesday February 24\*\***

## Notes From the Pro Shop

## Tim Cockrell, Head Golf Professional

As I write this article there are signs that spring might be coming! This past weekend weather was in the 50's both days. It will be good to see some Members that I have not seen since before Christmas. We are running some specials in the golf shop over the next month so come on in and check out the merchandise and the savings that you can have.

I hope that everyone will participate in the upcoming Tournaments that we have slated for February. The Audubon Tournament is always popular and it always makes me feel great to be a part of River Ridge when so many Members come out to support the golf course and give back to the facility where you play. Divot Day will be in March and that is always another well attended event and I look forward to filling up those divots with you.

You may notice during the next month or so some boys High School golf teams practicing and playing and having a couple of matches in the late afternoon here at River Ridge. We have always opened our doors and continue to do so to help promote Junior and High School golf both for the boys and girls. There are several golf courses in our area that have turned their back to High School and the Junior golfers and it makes me upset about this trend. The Juniors are the future of this great game and we need to do our part to help promote golf not the other way around.

### Divot Day

PLEASE HELP OUR FAIRWAYS!!! BECAUSE OF SEVERE WEATHER, WALKERS, AND CARTS ON PATH, WE HAVE LOTS OF DIVOTS IN OUR FAIRWAYS THAT HAVE NO SAND IN THEM. IN AN EFFORT TO BETTER CONDITION OUR GOLF COURSE FOR THE QUICKLY ARRIVING SPRING AND SUMMER, WE ARE ASKING YOU TO CONFIRM YOUR AVAILABILITY TO HELP WITH DIVOT DAY SATURDAY, MARCH 6, 2010 AT 7:00 AM.

**DATE:** Saturday March 5, 2011

**TIME:** 7:00-10:00 AM

**WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU:** Improve our golf course for the coming spring. Meet new members in a unique setting. Free cart fee and breakfast the morning of.

**WHAT YOU NEED TO BRING:** Small bucket and any sort of scoop with you. If you don't have a bucket we will provide one. We have a limited number of buckets, so please bring one if you have it. Sand will be delivered to you.

We consistently have 30 or more members every year to help us accomplish this huge task. With 30 people, the process takes about 3 hours to complete. We will concentrate on the highest hit areas in the fairways and all tees. It is amazing what sanding all the divots in the fairway does to help the fairways grow in.

Please contribute your time, it will help immensely. The Member/Member is April 16 and 17, and this effort will enhance your golfing pleasures that weekend. The bermuda grass will be greening up nicely, and sand in these unfilled divots will allow the bermuda to grow in quicker. Sand will also level these divots for a more even playing surface. Call today, reserve your tee time, and help us with divot day. This is a great day to meet new members and help better condition your golf course for the coming season. On behalf of RRG, thank you very much.



### Annual Cart Plan is now available!



We listen to your suggestions and are happy to announce that we have implemented a voluntary annual cart plan for you to take advantage of!

Pay an annual fee of \$1200, \$1800 for couples, and receive unlimited cart fees for one full year. To take advantage of this new service, please call Craig at 661-8374 x5, or [chooks@golfriverridge.com](mailto:chooks@golfriverridge.com). This service starts March 1. You must be paid in full to take advantage of this service, so please let us know as soon as possible if you want to use the plan.

### 2011 POLAR BEAR RESULTS

#### FLIGHT 1

LOW GROSS	DAN RAGAN & MIKE WILSON	66
LOW NET	RICK TATE & LARRY ADCOCK	69

#### FLIGHT 2

LOW GROSS	SUMNER TATE & BRADY HOOKS	81
LOW NET	JIM HAYNES & JIM CREECH	71

#### FLIGHT 3

LOW GROSS	DEAN HEALD & MIKE MADRAS	82
LOW NET	GUS REES & JOANIE REES	62

THANKS TO ALL THE MEMBERS WHO PARTICIPATED IN THIS YEAR'S EVENT





## 2011 Member Tournaments

February 12 ~ Audubon Tournament  
February 26 ~ Tough Day Tournament  
March 5 ~ Divot Day  
April 2 ~ President Cup Starts  
April 16-17 ~ Spring MM  
June 3-5 ~ Member Guest  
June 6 ~ 2 Man Match Play  
June 21 ~ Jr. Club Championship  
July 4 ~ Red, White and Blue Tournament  
July 16-17 ~ Sr. Club Championship  
August 13-14 ~ Men's Club Championship  
TBD ~ Fall MM  
TBD ~ Ladies Club Championship  
December 10 ~ Member Appreciation Tournament



**RLGA has something for Every Woman!**

Applications are available at the front desk or contact Esther Patterson at [patterson4653@gmail.com](mailto:patterson4653@gmail.com)

																		
	<b>TGIT GOLF LEAGUE AT RRG (Thank Goodness it's Tuesday League)</b>																	
	This league will be new to River Ridge and it is a Two Man Match Play format with 10 teams competing against each other in a round robin format. The league will start on March 15 <sup>th</sup> and will run until May 10 <sup>th</sup> . We will run this league again in the summer as well as the fall so if you can't participate in the spring you will have two other opportunities to play. The League will be open to all RR Members but if the league does not fill up we will open up the League to the public who keep a handicap with RR. All the matches will be 9 holes in length and we will have a shotgun start at 5:00 each Tuesday. The cost will be \$60.00 for Members and \$80.00 for public. Your fees will include team prizes, weekly close-ups and a steak dinner after the last match. SIGN UP TODAY! If you need further information please contact Tim or John.																	
																		
																		
																		
																		
																		
																		
																		
																		
																		

**Mark your calendars!**

**2011 MGA Season Meeting  
Thursday March 3, 2011,  
7:00 PM Clubhouse**

Please ensure that you make this very important 2011 kick-off meeting. It sets the stage for all 2011 activities, dues, tournament dates and of course election of your Directors. Please attend and have your thoughts, comments and votes count!

## Turf Talk

## Rodney Moss, Superintendent

February 22nd-24th maintenance will aerify greens. As we all know, after aerification we may have to play on greens that are less than desirable for a couple of weeks but without it, there would not be any greens to play on! Consider aerification as merely a short-term disruption that has long-term benefits for the course. When you see them, remember that without those little holes, the greens would eventually die. Preventative maintenance is an integral part of successful golf course management.



Aerification achieves three important objectives. It relieves soil compaction, provides a corridor for oxygen and nutrients to better penetrate the green's surface, and it reduces or prevents the accumulation of excess thatch.

Like so many things, the quality of a good putting green is more than skin deep. In fact, the condition of a green has a lot to do with what goes on below the surface. In order for grass to grow, it must have deep, healthy roots. Good roots demand oxygen. In good soil, they get the oxygen from tiny pockets of air trapped between soil and sand particles.

Aerification is a mechanical process that creates more air space in the soil and promotes deeper rooting, thus helping the grass plants stay healthy. In most cases, it's done by removing 1/2" to 5/8" cores (those plugs you sometimes see near a green or in fairways) from the compacted soil, allowing for an infusion of air and water that brings a resurgence of growth. The spaces are then filled with sand that helps the soil retain air space and makes it easier for roots to grow downward. All this is very important and necessary especially with how hot the summers have gotten the past few years. I appreciate everyone's patience and understanding.

Just a reminder our Audubon Tournament is coming up on the February 12th. This year proceeds are going toward the purchase of bat houses. Bats will help keep the mosquito population down and add even more variety to our wildlife here at RR.

# January 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 9:00 Wed league	3	4	5
6  <b>Superbowl</b>	7	8	9 9:00 Wed league	10	11	12 <b>Audubon Tournament</b>
13	14  <b>Valentine's Day</b>	15	16 9:00 Wed league	17	18	19
20	21 <b>Triangle Sr. 10:00 sg</b>	22 <b>Aerify ----</b>	23 9:00 Wed league	24	25	26 <b>Tough Day Tournament</b>
27	28					

# March 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 9:00 Wed league	3	4	5 <b>Divot Day</b>
6	7	8	9 9:00 Wed league	10	11	12
13 Daylight Savings	14	15	16 9:00 Wed league	17 	18	19
20 	21	22	23 9:00 Wed league	24	25	26
27	28	29	30 9:00 Wed league	31		

## Staff Contact Information

Craig Hooks- General Manager

Tim Cockrell - Head Professional

Sarah Ward- Business Manager

Elissa Schubert- Sales and Events Coordinator

Rodney Moss- Golf Course Superintendent

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