With near perfect weather and course conditions the last weekend, we concluded our club championship.

In the championship division Dave Stone earned a well-deserved victory by posting an all-time club record of 7 under par for the four rounds. Eric Briggs finished second and past champion Rob Bartha limped in in third place. (literally, as he twisted his ankle on the way to the 8th tee)

The “A” division went down to the last hole with Chris Plumley besting Mike Marseglia by just a single shot over the 72 holes.

The “B” division was pretty much a runaway as Jim Bourn took his second club championship. Jim won his first championship during the Lincoln administration. Also playing well were Kim Aderman and Bob Cappa who tied for second and will be playing off for the second-place trophy.

Lots of drama in the “C” division with Tom Pickrell holding a one stroke lead on the final hole over Mark Morgano on the final hole. Unfortunately, Tom’s slightly wayward drive settled on a root and Mark took advantage. Congratulations Mark.

Hats off to Zach and Eric who did a great job. Larry and his grounds crew. And “Mama Donna “ in the grille room.

Joe LeBlanc
President
Vice-President

Pace of Play update:

With the elimination of the former “Front Desk”, responsibility for monitoring pace of play has been transferred to the Pro Shop. The Pro Shop has been monitoring starting vs. finishing times and 2019 seems to be a carry-over from previous years.

Feedback is that generally the Men’s Club is finishing their last rounds in around 4 hours, 30 minutes. This can and should be improved. Certain players or groups are known to be more deliberate than others, but it only takes one group to affect the pace of play for the whole Club. When two or more groups are struggling to get across the finish line, the round can take up to 5 hours.

We should also be mindful of front nine vs. back nine times. We all hate to play the front nine in 2 hours, 20 minutes, then have to sprint to play the back nine in less than 2 hours for a respectable total finishing time.

One recommendation for improvement would be to schedule all Governor’s Cup matches after 8:00. This is the general nature of the matches and is not due to any single or handful of matches that have been played to date.

The usual recommendations apply; Play ready golf if at all practical, move quickly between shots, be ready when it is your turn and most importantly, keep up with the group in front of you. The fact that you are well ahead of the group behind you doesn’t matter.

Please be mindful of our pace of play goals for the enjoyment of all members.

Bob Wahlberg  
Vice-President

Membership

“You're in a big puddle of shit, Pamela, and you don't have the shoes for it.” – Ward Abbott in The Bourne Supremacy  
During the first two rounds of the 2019 edition of the Club Championships we played the ball down as the fairways were in great shape. With one exception. The 15th fairway was pretty shitty. No, wait, it was really shitty because it was nearly impossible to miss the fine assortment of goose droppings strewn across the finely mowed fairway. Along those lines it is important to remember that after playing one of those shots do not; A. lick your ball when you get to the green and B. do not, as I did, grab the head of your golf club. Now where the hell did I put that shotgun?

“There you were standin' in the shadows  
Well I just looked where I don't see  
I'm still pretendin' I don't need you  
I won't let you know you're killin' me”
Golf is not a game of perfect, or so Lou Miller used to tell me like a thousand times. This is because, me being me, the game of golf is a constantly evolving process of discontent and dissatisfaction.

But Alan Jackson’s ode to unrequited love suggests the game of golf lures us in and traps us into a never-ending loop of failed attempts and misadventures that should, for more normal people, send us running and screaming away into the night.

Unlike sports like bowling and baseball there is most certainly is no perfect game. Just variations on an ever-festering pool of imperfection.

It is our never-ending attempt at nearing or at least coming within a 7-iron of that impossible game of perfect that keeps us coming back.

Golf is a game that offers an almost masochistic feeling that no matter how well we might play on occasion there are always those missed shots and squandered birdies that compels us to feel that any round could always have been better.

The closest thing to golf for me is auto racing because after years of covering road racing at the highest levels I almost never heard the best in the world, after putting their car on the pole, give a satisfactorily smile and claim to have driven the perfect lap.

There was always a tenth of a second here or a tenth there. There was always something left out there on the track. No matter at which level you compete, in golf and racing it can always be better.

As an example, my 55-footer on Sunday for 4 on the 5th green slid softly across the front of the hole caused me to emit a whine of, “Awww, come on, how can that not go in the hole.”

Forget the fact that the remaining 4 or 5 inches I had left to negotiate for what, for me, is actually a par of 5 should cause me to giggle like a school girl having that Bieber kid smile at her. Forget the fact that any putt of that length for me is a three-putt incubating and looking for a place to hatch. The damn ball should have gone in.

When you look at it the USGA’s GHIN handicapping system is something that actually promotes discontent in the game because if you are carrying a 10 or 12 handicap it doesn’t mean that your average score will be 10 or 12 over par. As we all should know your handicap is not your average score.

Add to that the knowledge that all an even par net round in the Men’s Club will get you is a sloppy handshake and a ‘thanks for playing, son’.

What helped me 7 or 8 years ago was the realization that since my average score at Tallwood was a little over 85, I should be happy with a score of 85 or 86. Even though I wasn’t going to actually win anything the acceptance of what my game actually was made the game more enjoyable. And easier to play to.

I really need to get back to that.

Knowing what your average score is and applying that standard to your game right from the first tee should actually help you improve your attitude and your game by not placing unrealistic expectations on your imperfect game.

Playing to your average score as opposed to your handicap will almost certainly help you enjoy the game more so the beer will taste better in the club house when you finish.

OK, the beer always tastes good at the end of a round no matter if you shoot 75 or 105.

Oh, and by the way, present Tallwood Men’s Club membership stands at 226 with the return of former Club Champion Tom Brett and the addition of his son Tyler. Welcome back Tom.

Jim Bourn
179 Hamilton Drive
Vernon, CT 06066
Attn: TMC Membership
Membership Director
Greetings from the Social Committee,

It has been a quite month for social events since our last newsletter with the focus on our senior & club championships. That being said we have some fun classic traditional events in the waiting. The first, a multi-generational family event THE PARENT/CHILD. It includes 4 different divisions to optimize the fun: 18-hole 2MBB, 9-hole alternate shot, 4-hole division and the always fun putting green division for the toddlers. There will be gifts, prizes, hamburgers, hot dogs, Kelly dogs, sides and beverages. So, grab your sons, daughters, parents, nieces or nephews, grandchildren or your neighbor's all of the above and join the fun. Don't miss this if you have the opportunity and please get your forms in so our captains Earl Brown and Kim Aderman can plan accordingly.

Secondly be on the lookout for details of our second "Member Guest" or more commonly known as 2 Ball Open, some of us call it the Rib Open, and captained by Scott Marshall. It's going back to being a tee time event again so sign up in your favorite starting time. Great opportunity to bring a guest, Callaway divisions available or play with a member. The feast is provided by Little Marks Big Barbecue and this is a trophy event. I invited a friend one year and he is now an active member of our club as are some of his friends. So, mark 8/17/19 on your calendar, we look forward to sharing some good times.

See you in the grill room,

Gary Greenwald and Ron Krupa
Cosocial
The Tallwood Tradition

Sign Up for the Parent Child now

Parent Child Tournament
July 27, 2019

A traditional “fun” tournament, a team must be comprised of a TMC member and a relative of different generation (son, granddaughter, father, uncle, etc.)

Time: 18 Hole division – 11:00am (approx.)
9 Hole division – 2:00pm (approx.)
4 Hole division – 4:00pm (approx.)
Putting Division for Kids and Toddlers

Format: 4-hole, 9 hole - Two-person team – Alternate Shot
18 hole – two-person team – 2MBA

Entry Fee: $15 per person (no charge for Putting Division)
Green fees and carts (if riding) - paid on tournament day

Entry Fee includes:
○ Prizes
○ Free Gift for all Guests
○ Cookout at the Tallwood Pavilion
○ Beer and soft drinks

Prizes:
○ 18 Hole Division: Gross, Net and Callaway
○ 9 Hole Division: Gross, and Callaway
○ 4-hole Division: Gross, and Callaway

-------------------------------------------------------------

Entry Form
Parent Child July 27, 2019

Please make checks payable to the Tallwood Men’s Club.
Entries must be received no later than the Entry Deadline of Sunday, July 21st

Cancellation Policy
Cancellations will be accepted up to and including Entry Deadline date. Refunds for cancellations after
the Entry Deadline will require approval from the Tallwood Men’s Club board of directors.

Mail to: Tallwood Country Club
Attn: Parent Child
91 North Street
Hebron, CT 06248

TMC Member Name: _________________________
Partner: ___________________________ Age: _____
Partner’s GHIN # if playing in 18-hole (G/N) division: ______________

List additional partner(s) information on reverse side of this form
Division: (circle one) 18-hole 9-hole 4-hole
(Optional) Please pair us with: ________________________________

Note: To be paired with another twosome, be sure they have submitted their entry form and payment.
Amount enclosed: _______ Check #: _______ 2-person team – $30
(Each additional guest add $15) / Foursome

5
Sign Up for the Member-Member now

TALLWOOD MEN’S CLUB
2019 MEMBER - MEMBER TOURNAMENT

Saturday – August 3rd & Sunday - August 4th

Format:

• 36-hole two-man best ball stroke play tournament
• Low gross and low net Divisions.

Starting Times:

• Sign up for Times at the Pro Shop (both days).
• Friday night Calcutta starting at 6:00PM in pavilion – Beer, Dogs and Hamburgers

If you would like to be paired with a particular twosome, please submit the entry forms and payments for both teams together.

Entry Fee: $40.00 per team

Payment: Each team should either send a check for $40.00. If you have no partner, send your entry form and fee and you will be paired, if possible.

New Members – you must play in seven TMC tournaments before this event to be eligible.

Make check payable to: Tallwood Men’s Club

Tallwood Country Club, 91 North Street, Hebron, CT 06248, Attn: Member/Member

Member-Member

Entry forms and payments must be received by Monday, July 29, 2019

Name:________________________________ Handicap:_____________

Name:________________________________ Handicap:_____________

Please check here if you want to reserve a cart: Sat. _________ Sun. _________

Payment must be in the form of a check. Cash will not be accepted.

Please check your preferred tee time range:

___ early (~6:30 – 7:45)  ___ middle (7:45 – 9:00)  ___ late (after 9:00 )