



WELLSHIRE MEN'S GOLF CLUB

2017 WINTER NEWSLETTER



***Interesting new rule for 2017: “Rules [18-2](#), [18-3](#) and [20-1](#) are modified with no penalty as follows:

“When a player’s ball lies on the putting green, there is no penalty if the ball or ball-marker is accidentally moved by the player, his partner, his opponent, or any of their caddies or equipment. The moved ball or ball-marker must be replaced as provided in Rules 18-2, 18-3 and 20-1. Local Rule applies only when the player’s ball or ball-marker lies on the putting green and any movement is accidental.”

Happy New Year and welcome to the Wellshire Men’s Golf Club (WMGC) and the 2017 season. The Board has been busy this off season preparing the tournament schedule and website for this new golf season. Our first tournament will be in April 2017 instead of March. Let’s see if the weather will cooperate.

Highlights for the 2017 season include 15 tournaments (18 play days), 3 optional match play tournaments, and the Spring and Fall banquets. The Club Championship is scheduled 2 weeks prior to Labor Day instead of 1 week prior. As a reminder, 4 WMGC tournaments played from September 01, 2016 to August 15, 2017 are required to be eligible for the 2017 WMGC Club Championship. The finalized tournament dates for 2017 are posted on the website. The actual tournament schedule shall be posted in the near future.

Dues for the 2017 season have increased to \$160 annually to atone for rising costs due to a new CGA tournament operating system. Honorary dues will also increase to \$60. Including banquets and concessions we provide for specified tournaments, WMGC is still extremely competitive compared to other local men’s club fees. If you register as an honorary member, please list the dates you served on the Board of Directors for the WMGC.

An increase we also have no control over will be the cost of green fees Denver Golf charges for the 2017 season. While not finalized, we believe member green fees for regular tournaments will be around \$42 and for shotgun tournaments around \$45.

Membership registration is now open. It is important that you register (and pay) prior to March 15, 2017 so that your handicap will be active by April 01, 2017 for registering in our first April 2017 tournament.

The Board thanks all members who completed a questionnaire during the 2016 Fall banquet. Some highlights from your responses are:

1. One to two different tournament formats shall be scheduled each year.
2. Number of Individual stroke play tournaments will be between 50-60% of our tournaments.
3. The electronic scoreboard was an overwhelming favorite again. Unofficial printed results were posted after the end of each tournament so members could view results after the scoreboard was turned off.
4. Tee times shall be scheduled to assist with pace of play based on handicap. As a result, requests for playing partners shall be ***extremely limited***.

Our tournament schedule will have four shotgun starts again this year (required by Denver Golf permitting system). All shotgun starts are scheduled from late May through July so weather should be comfortable for 7 am starts.

The 2017 Denver Cup, originally scheduled for Wellshire will be played at City Park Golf Course on Sept 16-17. Since City Park will be closed for the 2018 season (and longer probably), Denver Golf and the Denver Men’s Clubs agreed to allow City Park to host the Denver Cup before shut down. Visit our website to review qualifications for making the Wellshire Denver Cup team.

The 3rd annual Kennedy – Wellshire Invitational will be scheduled in late Fall and will be hosted by Kennedy Men’s Club this year. Members who volunteer during the 2017 season for various tasks, i.e. volunteer for course improvement before Club Championship or assist with scoring, will have first priority as long as you did not play in the Denver Cup.

Match Play and Season Long Best Ball (SLBB) registration shall open March 01, 2017. The window for registering for both will be shortened this year, so do not miss out.

1. Match play - The 2017 season to get matches played will be shortened this year. So, I implore all who sign up, **PLEASE AS A COURTESY TO THE PLAYERS AND THE MATCH PLAY TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR, SIGN UP ONLY IF YOU HAVE THE AVAILABILITY TO SCHEDULE AND PLAY ON WEEKENDS, AND HAVE NO LONG VACATIONS PLANNED DURING THE SUMMER.** Extensions for rounds will again be extremely limited.
2. ***** Change:** To assist with getting matches played this 2017 season, the Board is considering allowing matches to be played at other golf courses as long as both members agree. This will also assist with Labor Day weekend since Wellshire is closed for the annual Four Ball tournament. More to follow.

A \$10 credit will again be given to an existing member who refers a new member who registers prior to March 01, 2017. The credit may be applied towards a WMGC tournament. Please ensure when paying for the tournament, you acknowledge your credit.

*****Please review***** Last year we implemented the “16 minute” finishing rule. As a result, only 2 tournaments finished in over 5 hours. Due to that success, we will continue with the 16 minute rule this year. However, feedback was received to schedule tee times that did not place as much pressure on higher handicap foursomes. We are working on a system to assist with this issue.

1. In order to achieve this goal, again, tee time requests shall be extremely limited.
2. Members shall be prepared to be part of foursomes that play from the same tee box but assigned to different flights.
 - a. The Club Championship shall be an exception.
3. Foursomes shall be prepared to be timed on the front nine as well to alleviate the back nine “dash” which seems to start on hole #14.
4. A local rule may be implemented to reduce lost ball searches to 2 minutes. A local tournament committee can modify USGA rule 27.1 of 5 minute searches. The Board is such a committee based on USGA rules. If implemented, violation of 2 minute rule is; penalty, 2 strokes in stroke play and loss of hole in match play.
 - a. Final determination shall be communicated prior to the first tournament.
5. Review pace of play guidelines on the website and practice these guidelines during casual play!!!

And, lastly, please contact the Membership Director, John Crowley or myself for the following;

1. If you choose not to join for the 2017 season and want to be removed from our email list.
2. If you move or change contact information.
3. If you choose to only pay for an Associate membership for the 2017 season.

We look forward to another solid year of competition and fellowship.

Sincerely,

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