



The Divot June 2017

The Official News Letter of the Sunflower Hills Patrons Club



The Staff would like to extend our congratulations to Mr Dennis Boquin, winner of the 40th Anniversary drawing. Dennis chose the option of four green fees for his prize. We would also like to thank everyone who participated in our 40th Anniversary celebration and hope you enjoyed it as

much as we did!

During the next few weeks Sunflower Hills has a busy tournament schedule. Please take the time to go over the following dates that the course will be closed.

Wednesday May 31st ----- Course closed until 1:00pm
 Wednesday June 7th ----- Course closed until 1:00pm
 Friday June 9th ----- Course closed until 2:00pm
 Monday June 12th ----- Course closed until 6:00pm
 Wednesday June 14th ----- Course closed until 6:00pm
 Friday June 16th ----- Course closed until 6:00pm
 Wednesday June 21st ----- Course closed until 1:00pm
 Monday June 26th ----- Course closed until 6:00pm
 Wednesday June 28th ----- Course closed until 1:00pm
 Wednesday July 5th ----- Course closed until 1:00pm
 Wednesday July 12th ----- Course closed until 1:00pm
 Friday July 14th ----- Course closed until 6:00pm
 Wednesday July 19th ----- Course closed until 1:00pm
 Wednesday July 26th ----- Course closed until 1:00pm
 Friday July 28th ----- Course closed until 6:00pm

The storm season is upon us and the staff at Sunflower Hills would like to remind all patrons of the dangers of lightning. Raising golf clubs or umbrellas above the head increases the risk when lightning is near, while golf shoes do not increase the risk. When a lightning storm is in the area:

Avoid

- Open areas.
- Standing water.
- Wire fences, overhead wires and power lines.
- Isolated trees.
- Maintenance machinery and golf carts.

Seek

- Lightning shelters.
- The clubhouse or maintenance building.
- On-Course buildings.
- Automobiles.
- When one of the above is not available seek dense woods or a low lying area.

The USGA emphasizes that players should be made aware that they have the right to stop play if they think lightning threatens them, even though the Committee may not have specifically authorized it by signal. (Rules 6-8 and 33-2d)



As those of you who played the weekend of May 20th know, on Thursday May 18th Sunflower experienced one of the biggest hail storms we have experienced over our 40 year history!



Golf ball sized hail pummeled the course for almost twenty minutes, shredding trees, punching hole in the maintenance buildings' skylights and leaving what looks like hundreds of ball marks on many of our greens. That's why it's a must to always be aware of the weather conditions why you are on the course!



Mark your calendar for Junior Golf Day, Saturday, June 17, 2017. Sunflower Hills volunteer Jody DeLong will be collecting for The First Tee, our golfers generously support this important junior golf program. Many of our golfers are not only familiar with The First Tee and the positive impact of the program, but have children and grandchildren who are participating in the programs. Donations can be made via cash, check or credit card.



The Staff at Sunflower Hills would like to ask all of our Patrons to embrace the USGA's initiative to help speed up play by adhering to the 20 second rule. When it's your turn to play hit your shot within 20 seconds. Count your fellow players down and let them know how long it took them to hit. If they are over 20 seconds let them know and encourage them to be ready to play within the 20 second time frame. Also, try to avoid fivesomes. Even the fastest players at Sunflower take two hours to play when they are in a fivesome.

Upcoming Patron Club Events:

Two Man Best Ball Saturday June 17th

Entry fee for this event is \$20 plus green & cart fees. Entry fee includes prizes and dinner with beverages following the round. There will be both Gross and Net winners. **Tee times will be assigned for this event!** Any patron that wishes to participate must sign up no later than Wednesday June 14th.

Club Championship Saturday July 8th

Entry fee for this event is \$25 plus green & cart fees. Entry fee includes prizes and dinner with beverages following Saturdays round. The Club Championship will be flighted. The number of entries will determine the number of flights and the breakdown between flights will be determined using USGA handicaps. Prizes will be awarded for individual winners in each flight. The winner of each flight will have the option of receiving a trophy, plaque or an additional \$20 credit. Entrants can play with their regular group. Closest to pin and long drive prizes will be awarded. **Tee times will be assigned for this event;** any Patron that wishes to participate must sign up by Wednesday July 5th.

(The following in an excerpt from an article by Alan Hoskins featured in the May 2017 issue of Tee Times magazine)

'Ready Golf:' The best solution to speeding up game

An extra 20 seconds on every shot on a round of 90 adds 30 minutes to a round of golf

Awhile back, one of Kansas City's best club professionals offered the following observation: "If you asked 500 golfers if they thought they were slow, not one hand would be raised." And yet slow play is the major factor in golf losing some of its allure and popularity in recent year. There's nothing more frustrating than a five-hour round of golf.

For solutions, we've gone to some of the area's best club professionals over the years who pretty much agree that play can easily be speeded up by playing Ready Golf and proper tee selection. "We're not on TV. Ready golf is the only way to go," says Curt Nelson, who probably deals with pace of play more than any professional in Kansas City as the General Manager of the area's two busiest courses, St. Andrews and Overland Park's 27-hole Sykes-Lady course.

"Golfers need to be ready to go when they get to their ball. To me, it's not always who is the farthest away. All too often partners can be on opposite sides of the fairway and one waits because the other is just a little farther out. They can hit at the same time and not effect play. They just need to keep moving. Ultimately, though, it's up to the golfers. People think that course management controls the pace of play but we cannot physically speed up a player. It's the player's responsibility. Each player needs to play fast."

"The biggest thing is being ready when it's your turn to play," says Sunflower Hills' Jeff Johnson, who along with Nelson are Kansas City's only master professionals. "You should be determining your yardage and the wind instead of sitting in a cart waiting for someone else to hit. Also, most novices take way to many practice swings. Most of the time your best swing is your practice swing. If you take three practice swings on every shot, you're going to be worn out. The only time you need practice swings is around the green on chip and pitch shots." Indeed, if one golfer takes an extra 20 seconds on every shot and putt and shoots a 90 for 18 holes, that adds 30 minutes to a round.

"We try to educate our players but we still have players who instead of dropping a player off at his ball and then going to his own ball, one will sit in the cart until the other has hit. It just drove us nuts," said John Marquardt, the longtime Director of Golf at Paradise Pointe now retired.

Rob Wilkin, the head professional at Heritage Park and the Midwest PGA Section's Player of the Year 18 times, concurs. "While your partner is getting ready to hit his shot, have your club selected and start your pre-shot routine. It shouldn't take 30 seconds and by the time your partner's shot comes down, you should have your shot in the air within 30 seconds. Same thing on the green. Start reading your putt right away. You can get ready without interfering. Golf takes long enough without wasting time." As long as you're not standing in someone's line, continuous putting should be encouraged. Just because the pros do it, it is not necessary to mark and clean on every putt. Personally, I've always felt I've puttied better because I've just puttied once and know the line. Also, all too often you'll have a playing partner having trouble and when he finally gets on the green, he's still away. Go



ahead and putt and let the poor guy regain his composure instead of forcing him to hurry even more.

Finally, play the appropriate tee. Several area courses have adapted the PGA's "Play It Forward" initiative by putting in forward tees, including Kansas City Country Club where Tom Watson constructed 14 new forward tees. "It's done three things for us," says head professional Andy Fisher. "It's sped up the pace of play, made the game a lot more fun for our older members who can't hit the ball as far anymore and it's been great for our junior program."

Dare to be BETTER!

Two Man Scramble Results Saturday May 13, 2017

Low Gross

1st	62 Peter Yadrich & Micah Morris	\$75.00 ea
tie 2nd	65 Jerry Reid & Tom Bachelor	\$45.00 ea
	65 Casey Pierce & Tyler Herl	\$45.00 ea
tie 4th	68 Greg Loethen & Mark McClain	\$30.00 ea
	68 Brad Ansley & Phil Hoffman	\$30.00 ea

Low Net

1st	58.9 Brett Ricky & Ted McClellan	\$75.00 ea
2nd	60.6 Dan Maskil & Mike McNellis	\$50.00 ea
3rd	61.0 Moe Ryan & Steve Sirridge	\$35.00 ea
4th	61.1 Joe Sutera & Jerry Verbeck	\$30.00 ea
5th	61.9 Roger DeLong & Phil Poce	\$25.00 ea
6th	63.5 Kyle Mendenhall & Ed Vohland	\$20.00 ea
7th	64.5 Glenn Rice & Joe Huttie	\$15.00 ea
8th	64.7 Dave Klein & Bob Chatterton	\$10.00 ea

Proximity Prizes \$25 each

- Closest to Hole #4 – Mike Tobin
- Longest Putt #9 – Brett Ricky
- Longest Drive #10 – Casey Pierce

Memorial Stroke Play

Saturday May 27, 2017

Low Gross

1st	75 Brian Shatto	\$65.00
2nd	76 Jerry Reid	\$55.00
3rd	79 Stuart Hunt	\$45.00
4th	80 Rick Richardson	\$35.00
tie 5th	83 Tom Bachelor	\$8.50
	83 Mike McNellis	\$8.50
	83 Peter Yadrich	\$8.50

Low Net

1st	68 Jim Long	\$65.00
2nd	70 Steve Turner	\$55.00
tie 3rd	71 Dan Ksiazek	\$40.00
	71 Bob Chatterton	\$40.00
5th	73 Rick Egnatic	\$25.00
tie 6th	74 Les Damlo	\$11.25
	74 John Sutton	\$11.25
	74 Phil Hoffman	\$11.25
	74 Jason Cornish	\$11.25

Proximity Prizes - \$20 each

- Closest to Hole #4 – Jerry Reid
- Longest Putt #9 – Bill Campbell
- Longest Drive #10 – Tom Bachelor

If You're Not Playing By The Rules ... You're Not Playing Golf!

Provisional Ball - Rule 27-2

If a ball *might* be lost outside of a water hazard or *might* be out of bounds, a player may save time, and a long walk back, by playing another ball (provisional ball) from a spot as near as possible from where the original ball was played. The player must tell his fellow competitors or opponents that the ball to be played is a "provisional ball". The provisional ball is to be played before they go forward to look for the original ball.



If the original ball is lost outside of a water hazard or is out of bounds the provisional ball becomes the ball in play and the player incurs a **penalty of stroke and distance**. If the original ball is found within the allotted 5 minutes it is considered a lost ball if:

1. If the player plays a stroke with the provisional ball from a place where the original ball is likely to be.
2. If the player plays a stroke with the provisional ball from a place nearer to the hole.

If the original ball is found the player **may not** continue to play the provisional ball. Playing the wrong ball is penalized under Rule 15 with loss of the hole (match play) or a two stroke penalty with possible disqualification (stroke play).

Play more in 2017!!!!

We encourage everyone to vow to play more in 2017! Try to make plans to play eight more rounds this year. You will notice an improvement in your game. Golf is the one sport that allows you the satisfaction of competition with yourself or others and to take advantage of weather good to bad! Green grass, blue skies and fresh air have a cleansing effect on the mind and soul. Play more in 2017.

Have a Great June!

e-mail us (info@sunflowerhillsgolfcourse.com)

You Can Also Find Sunflower Hills on:

