



# Rock Harbor News

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## Notes From The G

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*Happy New Year, everyone!*

*So far, it’s been a glorious year, the weather has been phenomenal and I guess we’re all waiting for the other shoe to drop. During the past year, we’ve scheduled the last Wednesday of each month as a member social and during the spring, summer and even fall months, weather permitting, we try to get in some light course care. We wish to continue with that special time for our membership while growing our golfing family. During this time of the year, as most of you know and we hope our newer members may come to enjoy, we setup more informative Wednesday socials and actually more frequently. Last month (December), we hosted our annual member Christmas social and merchandise extravaganza. This month we’ve hosted three socials. The 1<sup>st</sup> was a golf fitness/readiness session featuring a good friend of ours Jen Smith, fitness guru and personal trainer. Jen and her demonstration partner, Marie, gave a very informative and practical demonstration of limbering and strengthening exercises for the core muscle groups. Next up was an informational session on golf course maintenance presented by our own Bobby J. Bobby introduced Paul Hartzell, executive for the Virginia Turf Grass Association, who explained why certain maintenance functions are needed and when they should be performed as witnessed this past season via the hard working maintenance crew.*

*...LATE BREAKING NEWS...*

*You know, we were waiting for the other shoe, well sir, it came in a size 30, even larger in some areas. I broke in the middle of writing this article and maybe I shouldn’t have. All was going relatively smoothly then shortly upon stopping to gather my thoughts, BOOM! More powder than a Johnsons & Johnsons convention in a maternity ward. In any event, this brings us back to the last and most recent Wednesday social. No specific agenda had been assigned, yet we want to keep the last Wednesday active as a matter of course. By all reports, well at least as of this writing, it was a rousing success. The two sessions, earlier were met with moderate attendance and this one was almost overrun. Now, don’t call me paranoid or anything, but, and I’m just sayin’, how is it that we get moderate to good turn out while Mr. Perry and I are hosting this social and we leave; then purt-near all of the membership shows up? --- the kind of thing that makes you go, hmmm. Just sayin’.*

*I wish to thank all of you for coming out and supporting us the way you do. I would also like to thank as well, Chip & his staff and Ardis, who called everyone, for the good job in making this event a success.*

## Fresh From The Grill

Chip Connelly,  
Director of Food and Beverage:

Well, if you are reading this, it means you were able to dig out to your mailbox; congratulations! The bad news is, it's February. The good news is, it's February, which brings us one month closer to spring. On Ground Hog Day, Phil will either see his shadow or not; if he sees it, we have six (6) more weeks of winter; if he doesn't, we only have 42 days until spring. February also brings us more "social" opportuni-

ties. On the 10<sup>th</sup>, we will host our annual VSGA Rules seminar (with hors-d'oeuvres and cash bar) from 6-8 p.m. On the 24<sup>th</sup> we will be having a "Membership Drive" social, open to all members, their dates and potential new members (don't forget the \$500.00 rebate program). On Valentines' Day (Sunday the 14<sup>th</sup>) will have a sweet-hearts' dinner with service from 5-7:30 p.m. Details will be forth coming, but reservations will be required no later than

February 12<sup>th</sup>.

As we have not made it out of the snow season yet, keep up to date through the Grill's Faceook page at: [www.facebook.com/Rock-Harbor-Grill-140334832703779/](http://www.facebook.com/Rock-Harbor-Grill-140334832703779/) (Don't forget to "like us" to get posting updates).

We look forward to seeing you all soon. Bright moments, fairways & greens (hopefully) and please drive carefully.

Please RSVP for the Open House/Social/Mixers NLT the Monday prior by calling The Grill @ 540-722-9678 or emailing Chip @ [chip@rockharborgolf.com](mailto:chip@rockharborgolf.com)

Cook. Eat. Love



## The "Jonas" Dig Out

The predicted snowstorm, Jonas, delivered every bit of punch that was expected. The golf course and Grill were closed and crippled for 4 1/2 days. The driveway to the course was completely impassable until Phil Olinger and his crew, including, Mark Clem and Shane Rohrbaugh, brought in the big equipment to help clear the drive. Thanks for your patience and to everyone who helped clear the snow.



# Cole's Corner: Member Event Point Change

Cole Lee, Tournament Director:

As most of you know, and for those who don't, I have made some minor changes to our point scale to participate in the season ending Harbor Cup Championship.

As in previous years, I assigned higher point values to struggling or new member events in hopes to develop and increase the participation. So I did just that. The holiday events will now be worth 5 points instead of the previous 3. Since the Chapman and 2 Ball Aggregate have been doing so well, it will now be reduced from the 5 points to 3.

Another change you will notice is the 10 point bonus. We noticed a lot of the leagues having issues getting league matches played in the window necessary that would benefit everyone. So I decided to reward those teams who can get it done early. I will be giving the teams 4 months to play their 4 league matches (April 1-July 31). That is: 16 weekends to play 4 matches (or if you are 2 leagues, 8 matches). We all will know that these matches are completed when the cards are turned in with the date. 10 bonus points will be awarded to the permanent team members, as well as the single points awarded for matches played. So if you are in 2 leagues, play all 8 matches by July 31<sup>st</sup>, you and your partner could accumulate up to 28 points in just the league play alone!

There are a lot of possible points this season and hopefully you all take full advantage of the opportunities this year. Just a reminder, there is a full schedule of member events posted in the clubhouse above the Pro Shop door as well as the restroom hallway. Good Luck!

## From The Ground Up

*Bobby Jenkins,  
Course Superintendent:*

*Report from the Wednesday, January 20th Member Social:*

*The Maintenance Talk:*  
Not as many people as I had hoped for showed up, but that's ok. I will summarize for those who couldn't make it. We started off by showing a short video of the maintenance crew verticutting and aerifying tees. The verticutting process is to take out excessive thatch, we will

repeat this again in the Spring. We also showed a video on Frost Delays, highlighting the damage foot traffic damage can do to a frost covered green and how cart traffic can damage fairways and roughs. After that we talked about the difference between frost and frozen damage. In course maintenance news: you may have noticed that the fairways have been aerified and some have been top-dressed. The new holes

(3B-9B)

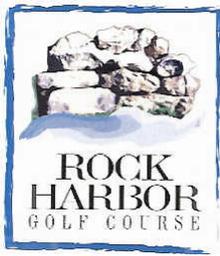
we have been using hollow tines which bring the soil plugs to the surface. Then we topdress, drag it in to allow a gas exchange down below the surface and provide oxygen to get to the root system.

*Continued on back page.....*



*The Maintenance Talk,  
Wednesday, Jan. 20th*





## Rock Harbor Golf Course

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By dragging the plugs and topdressing, it helps to level out some of the bumpy areas you see on the course. This needs to be completed annually and in some cases semi-annually. The Maintenance meeting was very beneficial and helpful in understanding why we do the maintenance on the course. We hope to have better attendance next time to help educate the members and other players about course maintenance— it's not just our job, it's your too!



### Winter Activities for Members

February 10th @ 6 PM USGA Rules and Handicapping

February 24th @ 6 PM Prospective Members Invitational

March 9th @ 7 PM Ladies Night

March 30th @ 7 PM Sand & Suds and Member League Draw

