



Rock Harbor News

VOLUME 12 ISSUE 12

DECEMBER 2016

Notes From The G

Gerri Lum, Rock Harbor General Manager:

Can you believe it, we're ending 2016? I'm not sure if it's me or exactly what it is, but it surely does seem that when we get a bit older the time just zips by without so much as a how do you do.

Well this year, we had our Christmas holiday sales event earlier than in the past. We indeed had a greater turnout than we've experienced in years past. I've heard great comments from those in attendance about the dining experience and the comradery exchange. We did get to move a few of our leftover merchandise. Thanks all of you who attended and I'd like to remind all of you that we will continue to have our monthly socials on the last Wednesday of each month and you will also find a calendar of member events for the month as well as the schedule of activities for 2017 and member golf events for the new year as well. Review, mark the dates and we'll see you at the club.

Another reminder to all: member referrals are still in effect for anyone bringing in new members. We'll be having a prospective member social on February 22nd, 2017 at which time we will also review the member leagues, reiterate formats for both the regular season and playoffs. So be sure that you shore up your partner and remember that partners need not be a member so long as one of the team is a member in good standing at Rock Harbor.

I want to take this opportunity to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year. We shall all wish for a highly successful 2017.

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Fresh From The Grill

Beau Rudiger, Food and Beverage Manager:

I just wanted to thank everyone for the warm welcome and support the membership has shown me during my first full month here at The Grill. We ask your indulgence as we are a work in progress and will continue to strive to improve as we go along but it will take time, so I want to thank you ahead of time for your patience and understanding. We will get there!!

We will continue sending the Saturday night specials out on the Wednesday or Thursday emails. So, if you haven't been receiving these notices, contact either myself or Gerri with a correct address so you too can be updated. We have had good turn outs by the members and we hope to see more of you as we progress. We will have a South Western sampling at our next member social (December 28th) along with some of



our home made appetizers.

We will start the New Year with a New Year's Day breakfast buffet featuring some new items to our buffet menu. We will run that from 8 am till 1 pm Sunday the first. We will still do our regular breakfast menu that day also.

I hope to see you soon at The Grill!!

From The Ground Up

Bobby Jenkins, Course Superintendent:

Things are beginning to slow down on the maintenance side of the golf course. We are starting to work on equipment repairs and sharpening all cutting reels. We are also finishing up aerating the fairways, applying fungicides on the greens and tees for prevention of winter diseases. The cleanup of debris

from heavy winds 2 weeks ago will continue through completion. The irrigation system will be drained and winterizing the pump house is all a part of our process to get ready for the cold weather and snow. We have a few other jobs to complete before the snow begins to fall. From everyone at the maintenance crew: We hope you have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Welcome to our Newest Member

Jim Miller



Cole's Corner: Vertical Grooves?!?

Cole Lee: Rock Harbor Golf Course
Tournament Director;

A new driver from a startup company has a fundamentally different thought about what golfers need to produce straighter tee shots: A vertical groove pattern instead of horizontal.

While the faces of many drivers today often eschew grooves of any kind in certain sections (particularly face center), the new Vertical Groove Driver is flush with scorelines that run from crown to sole instead of the traditional direction of heel to toe.

The theory is that the grooves will mitigate sidespin to produce shots that slice or hook less.

No current driver models feature this kind of groove configuration, although Bridgestone's JGR driver, introduced earlier this year, featured milling marks on the face designed to control spin. Bridgestone's engineers suggested that the milling pattern, which included vertical lines on the heel and toe, prevented the ball from sliding slightly on the face.

Most companies opt out of grooves on the face of a driver in part because driver faces have become so thin that designing for grooves might require a thicker face construction. [The USGA/](#)

[R&A study on spin generation in 2006 that was part of the study of grooves included research showing that at lower lofts a certain level of coefficient of friction could reduce spin somewhat, but surface roughness is different than grooves.](#) It's also worth noting that typically the primary function of grooves on a clubface is to channel debris and moisture away from the ball-clubface contact point, and is often most beneficial in shots from the rough. Of course, the Vertical Groove Driver's face pattern is much more extreme than barely visible milling marks. A pattern of 17 vertical grooves span the face area. There was a patent filed decades ago by Tony Antonious, whose name is on hundreds of patents but is most known for his patent on the velcro closure of a golf glove. Merit Golf produced a vertical groove driver design in 2002 based on this idea, and touted its pattern as reducing spin.

The Vertical Groove driver's grooves are designed to reduce sidespin, but according to Vertical Groove Golf's head of research and development Mike Rossi, the grooves are just one part of a total solution to straighter tee shots.



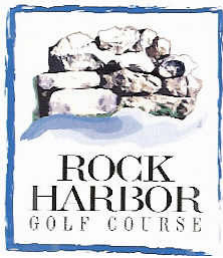
"It's really a multifaceted approach," Rossi said. "We're on our fourth generation to get the right center of gravity position, bulge and roll, club-head size and shape. All those things are combining to get the results we're seeing in our testing. From what we see, the grooves really are the tiebreaker in making the club work."

Rossi said the grooves also "create a consistent energy transfer" at impact. He also isn't hyping the Vertical Groove Driver as being an extremely low spin offering.

"I think there's been a lot of debate about spin, but I believe the average player can benefit from a little more spin. At a sub-90 mile-per-hour swing, you're going to need some spin to get some better carry."

Still, he believes the Vertical Groove driver works across a wide range of player types. That's why the driver will be offered with five stock flexes (A-flex through X-flex), ranging from 45 to 65 grams in the Aldila NV2K shaft.

The Vertical Groove driver will be available at the company's website in December (\$400).



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