

# Rock Harbor News

January 2016

## Member Corner: Colleen Connolly

By: Misty Fields



As parents we all want to teach our children to be driven, self motivated, successful and goal oriented. So to Debbie and Larry Connolly, I say "good job!" Colleen Connolly is one driven young lady. At only 18 years of age she is very focused on achieving the goals she sets for herself. In 2015 Colleen entered the Club Championship for the first time. She was not interested in having a good time or seeing what might happen. She wanted the black golf cart with the neon pink highlights that is awarded to the Ladies Club Champion. She got it! And she is proud to use it every time she plays at RH.

Colleen got her start in golf from her Grandfather who bought her first set of clubs and took her to play. This led to her mother taking up the game and now the whole family enjoys playing together.

As member of the Handley High School golf team, Colleen has learned a lot about the game. She has developed a level of maturity and experience she never could have achieved by just playing on her own. This has also opened doors for her to play in different tournament settings and to travel with other girls her age who also love playing the game in a competitive setting.

Colleen is a senior this year and she has begun to really focus on her studies in order to achieve her goal of moving forward to college. Colleen has her sights set on Randolph Macon, although she is waiting to hear from the recruiting coach for the golf team to see what they will offer her, she is mainly focused on her studies. Golf will have to remain a pastime as she pursues a degree. She wants to graduate with a Business-Accounting major, she hopes to move into Forensic accounting or work for the Governmental Fraud Department. Besides golf, Colleen also participates in other extra curricular activities: Volleyball, soccer, she is a member of DECA, she is also a member of a new group at Handley call Women with Purpose. They are involved with empowering other women and community service. They have worked at CCAP and organized toy drives

for children. Colleen also has some short term goals for herself, she wants to get in better shape this year to

help improve her golf game and she wants to get her golf score to be consistently in the 70's. She is also very focused on her school work, as she enters her last semester of her senior year the work has become more intense .

Since Colleen is someone who enjoys a good challenge she favors the Boulder Course and all the challenges it offers her. She finds No. 12 & 14 of the Boulder to be her most difficult holes. The waste bunkers seem to be more of a magnet than something to be avoided.

I asked her if she would try to defend her title in this years Club Championship, she just smiled and said she wasn't sure, wanting to keep the completion guess. She did say that Becky Wisecarver told her she would be coming for her this year to take back her title. The Ladies competition is already shaping up to be pretty exciting this year.



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## Why Aeration and Top-Dressing?



*Ruben Herrera, top left, who has been with RH since 2006 is bundled up to drill the 7/8 inch holes. Ray McDonald, top right, who has been with RH since 2003 is also heavily bundled to spread the sand after Ruben has completed his job of drilling holes.*

**Denny Perry:**

In the last newsletter I wrote about aeration and topdressing of the fairways in the Spring. The weather has been so good we were able to start the process back in the Fall. Some have asked, "Why do it at all, it makes such a mess of the fairways?" Let me briefly explain why we go through this process of course maintenance: On the new holes we punched a 7/8 inch hole and pulled the cores. When the cores got wet they made a muddy mess. After applying a topdressing of sand and waiting for the cores to dry out the crew were able to drag the fairways and breakup the cores which helps to fill in low spots. The sand filled holes have numerous benefits for water penetration, turf quality and soil stability. I'll leave the in depth explanations on how it improves the turf to Bobby. For now, just know that the ground will be smoother and you will be able get off the carts paths a lot sooner when we have wet conditions.



**Pictorial Diary Reveal:**

16 Boulder. Original picture taken in Feb. 2008.

