

# November 2018

## A Recap & Road Map

As many of you know, the club's fiscal calendar ends on 10/31. I strongly encourage all membership to review our newsletter carefully, as I attempt to provide you an accurate "year in review" and reveal at least part of our road map for 2019. Thank you to our Board of Directors for their time in reviewing, providing input and guidance as I laid out my plan for the club going forward at our recent Board Retreat.

### **2018 Summary**

There is no doubt that the beginning of 2018 fiscal (11/1/17) started with a bang. Shortly after our Christmas party season concluded, renovations to our lounge (& let's be honest, we went way beyond renovations) began aggressively to meet a thirty-day deadline. Through a phenomenal donation, we are now treated to a modern, upscale space. We took the opportunity during our one-month closure to repaint and redecorate all dining locations as well, and spent time cleaning and painting our locker room space(s). The club also received an additional donation at this time, replacing the cabinets in the main dining room along with our wait station. A beautiful compliment to the new lounge space.

But we weren't done yet! In late-April work began (again through a generous donation) on the fantastic deck you now see pool-side. The deck is modern, sleek, and affords diners additional space in which to enjoy the club. From a sales perspective, our new lounge and deck space serves as an additional venue to accommodate member or non-member groups and makes our clubhouse even more versatile. I think the best feature of the deck is that it fits the building as though it was always there. In total, donations provided the club with our new lounge, TV's, & dinner/drinkware.... deck, cabinetry, range mats and American Flags. "Thank you" does not accurately reflect the appreciation for these generous gifts.

Despite some challenges on the golf course, 2018 should be considered a great success. Early season cold (compared to 2017) and flooding certainly impacted the playability of our golf course, and these agronomic challenges definitely continued well into the summer.

Despite these challenges, rounds of golf remained at 2017 levels, and club events continued to be well attended. Each club event had either increased participation or remained at a level I'd consider "flat" to last season. Highlights included an increase number of participants in the Calcutta (72 vs 68), an increased purse in the Calcutta (upwards of \$70,000!), Member/Guest-Member/Member (44 vs 32), an increase in participants in "The Major" (44 vs 32) and a waiting list for the Cup Match roster. The golf season was capped off with the team of Dane Church / Bob Ronchetti winning "The Major", and a resounding Threeppeat victory by team MGCC over the Team from CCC. (We even won the bonus match 6&5).

In July, we introduced Wil White as our new Golf Course Superintendent. Wil came to us from Rich Harvest Farms Country Club; a "top 100" private club and previous host to the Solheim Cup and NCAA DI Championships. Despite walking into a storm, Wil quickly organized his team and got our course back on track. I am so looking forward to Wil's continued expertise and the incredible future playing conditions he plans to provide.

***Our 2019 Fiscal Year starts November 1, and I encourage all membership to review the contents of this newsletter carefully to ensure an understanding of future plans and changes going forward. The success of the club depends on you, the membership...and I cannot thank you for the continued support of MGCC!***

# **Dining / Clubhouse - Lounge Hours**

## **EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 1, 2018**

### **November 2018 – December 2018**

Monday Clubhouse Closed

Tuesday Clubhouse Closed

Wednesday Rotary & Open for Lunch, 10A-2P

Thursday Lounge / Dining Room, 4P-10P – kitchen closes at 9P

Friday Lounge / Dining Room, 4P-10P – kitchen closes at 9P

Saturday Lounge / Dining Room, 4P-10P – kitchen closes at 9P

Sunday Brunch 9A-1P, (no brunch on 11/25 & 12/29)

### **January 2019 ( NO King of Clubs)**

1/23 Wed. Reopen for Rotary & Lunch, 10A-2P

1/24 Thurs. Lounge Only, 4P-10P – kitchen closes at 9P

1/25 Fri. Lounge Only, 4P-10P – kitchen closes at 9P

1/26 Sat. Lounge Only, 4P-10P – kitchen closes at 9P

### **Sundays No Brunch**

Monday Clubhouse Closed

Tuesday Clubhouse Closed

Wednesday Rotary & Open for Lunch, 10A-2P

Thursday Lounge Only, 4P-10P – kitchen closes at 9P

Friday Lounge Only, 4P-10P – kitchen closes at 9P

Saturday Lounge Only, 4P-10P – kitchen closes at 9P

### **February 2019 – March 31, 2019**

Monday Clubhouse Closed

Tuesday Clubhouse Closed

Wednesday Rotary & Open for Lunch, 10A-2P

Thursday Lounge / Dining Room, 4P-10P – kitchen closes at 9P – King of Club Returns

Friday Lounge / Dining Room, 4P-10P – kitchen closes at 9P

Saturday Lounge / Dining Room, 4P-10P – kitchen closes at 9P

**Sunday Brunch on designated dates only**

### **April – September**

Monday Clubhouse Closed (When pool opens, snack shop only on Mondays)

Tuesday Clubhouse Open 10A-?

Wednesday Clubhouse Open 10A-?

Thursday Clubhouse Open 10A-?

Friday Clubhouse Open 10A-?

Saturday Clubhouse Open 10A-?

**Sunday Brunch on designated dates only**

- Open w/ breakfast & lunch menu on non-brunch Sundays 11A-2P

### **October 2019**

Return to November – December hours

### **Book Clubs, Gin, Bridge, Member & Non-Member Groups**

The Clubhouse remains open in November & December, & after January 23 for your scheduled games. Beverage and dining service will be available and may be coordinated with the club.

***The club also remains open for lunch or dinner groups of 20 or more with 7-day reservation and pre-selected menu. Club remains available for off-site catering during times club itself is closed.***

# 2018 / 2019 Brunch Schedule

## November

All Sundays EXCEPT Sunday, November 25

## December

All Sundays EXCEPT Sunday, December 29

## January

No brunch dates

## February

One brunch date: Sunday, February 17 – VALENTINES BRUNCH

## March

One brunch date: Sunday, March 17 – ST. PATTY'S BRUNCH

## April

One brunch date: Sunday, April 21 – EASTER BRUNCH

## May

One brunch date: Sunday, May 12 – MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH

## June

One brunch date: Sunday, June 16 – FATHER'S DAY BRUNCH

## July

One brunch date: Sunday, July 28 – MEMBER/MEMBER – MEMBER/GUEST WEEKEND

## August

One brunch date: Sunday, August 18 – CALCUTTA WEEKEND

## September

One brunch date: Sunday, September 8 – CHAMPIONSHIP MATCHES OF CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

## October

One brunch date: Sunday, October 27 – HALLOWEEN BRUNCH

## November

Two brunch dates: Sunday, November TBD  
Thursday, November 28 – THANKSGIVING BUFFET

## December

Two brunch dates: Two "Santa" Brunches TBD – (based on Santa's delivery schedule)

## **Canopy Dining**

MGCC acknowledges that many of our members are “on the go” and not able to visit the club for dine-in service. For this reason, the club will launch “Canopy Dining”.

This program will undergo a “soft launch” beginning Friday, November 9, with a Canopy Dining specific menu to follow by December 1, distributed to membership.

Canopy Dining will be available during our regularly scheduled dining hours as listed within this newsletter.

Please note: During our extremely busy holiday party season, we ask that Canopy orders be placed before 4P to avoid any delay in preparation or excessive wait time.

Call in your order: (217) 234-8831, drive to our front door and waitstaff will bring your order to you. **Member Charges Only Please**

## **Country Club Bucks**

As an incentive to membership for dine-in service, we will offer “Country Club Bucks” effective January 24. Country Club Bucks may be accumulated through REGULAR dining service taking place after 4P on Wednesdays and Fridays.

Dine “in house” Wednesdays & Fridays during dinner service, **from the dining room menu**, and receive 20% of your food bill in FUTURE Country Club Bucks. (beverages not included)...Country Club Bucks can be used towards future “in house” dining visits to the lounge, deck, patio or dining room and may also be used for Canopy Service. Country Club Bucks may not be accumulated or applied for dining associated with special events at the club. For example, pool parties, fireworks dining, fine dining, or Sip/Chip events.

## **2018 / 2019 Plans**

Several positive changes are in the works going forward both for the clubhouse and golf course. Every effort will be made to make Mattoon Golf & Country Club the premiere facility in the area while remaining family friendly, offering a high level of guest service and great golf course conditions. Whether it be social members or golfing members, items listed below are being pursued to enhance your membership experience.

### **Membership Roster (including club by-laws)**

A bound membership roster including current shareholding members. This complimentary roster would be distributed to all membership and would include the club's by-laws including cart usage, pool regulations and dining hours.

Additional membership classes will be available online via the member portal.

### **Update to Reciprocal Clubs**

Available within the bound Membership Roster and member portal, this list will be updated ensuring membership is aware of this valuable benefit.

### **Membership Hard Cards**

We are exploring the possibility of each member receiving a magnetized hard card which can be utilized for tracking and demographic purposes. This card, would be presented when checking in for golf or when utilizing the pool, ensuring that these privileges are indeed being utilized by "members only".

### **Saturday Morning Game**

Working with the golf committee this off-season, the club will develop our 2019 calendar. A few highlights will include a new format to our club championship as was stated in the October newsletter. In addition, we will work to reinstitute a "Saturday Game" which will be available to golfers of all skill sets and be scheduled at an appropriate time of day enabling families to reconvene at the pool.

### **Family Nights**

In 2019, Fridays at the pool will focus on our families and include a family specific and appropriate styled buffet.

**Entry of Club, Clubhouse Surrounds, Golf Course Details**

It is important that the entirety of our club be presentable at all times. In 2019, we will have 2 employees hired with primary responsibilities focused on our clubhouse entry, tennis courts, bag drop area, main clubhouse entry, locker room entry and flagpole location, Memorial bench areas and tee box surrounds. These areas will be neat, clean and remain a lasting tribute to our membership. We have already begun this process as painting of our tennis court fences is underway and will include our parking lot light posts and flagpoles.

**Golf Course Conditions**

The condition of our golf course is a primary focus as the club continues to grow. Off-season projects will include addressing some of our most persistent irrigation issues, dormant seeding of several of our green surrounds and improvement to our bunker complexes. In 2019 it is our goal to reinstitute a “courtesy cut” of rough adjacent to our fairways making the course more playable to all members.

**The Suite Dreams**

MGCC Members have the ability, at no extra fees or dues, to utilize the indoor pool at the Suite Dreams hotel. In addition, nets have now been installed in addition to five hitting mats to keep your skills honed throughout our “off-season”. Both the pool and hitting nets will be available to membership on November 1, and we will send out parameters of use in a separate email. We hope all membership enjoys and utilizes this incredible benefit.

**Membership Drive**

Although not finalized, please watch your email and future newsletters for our 2019 membership promotion. Not only will this promotion be aggressive to new members, but will also include benefits to our current membership. You are our best marketing department and we hope you’ll participate in the recruitment of new members!

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In summary, 2018 has been a very successful year at your club and the future looks bright in 2019. As your General Manager / Head Golf Professional, I understand the love our membership has for this club, and I will continue to strive and implement those changes and improvements which I feel are fiscally responsible and best suit the needs of membership. I sincerely appreciate your continued support.

Respectfully,

Rob Lussenhop, PGA  
General Manager / Head Golf Professional

## **Upcoming Holiday Season Schedule**

**In addition to changes in our clubhouse hours, please note these Holiday Hours:**

- |                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| • Saturday, November 17 | Clubhouse Closed – Outside Events        |
| • Thanksgiving Buffet   | 10A-2P                                   |
| • Friday, November 23   | Regular Clubhouse, Dining & Golf Hours   |
| • Saturday, November 24 | Regular Clubhouse, Dining & Golf Hours   |
| • Sunday, November 25   | No Brunch / Clubhouse Closed – Golf Open |

**Please review our weekly dining / events calendars to keep abreast of our very busy Christmas party schedule as this may affect dining access throughout the month of December.**

### **Key Dates in December**

- |                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| • Sunday, December 9     | Brunch w/ Santa!                        |
| • Sunday, December 16    | Brunch w/ Santa!                        |
| • Wednesday, December 19 | Member Christmas Party                  |
| • Sunday, December 23    | Brunch                                  |
| • Monday, December 24    | Clubhouse Closed – Golf Shop Closed     |
| • Tuesday, December 25   | Clubhouse Closed – Golf Shop Closed     |
| • Wednesday, December 26 | Clubhouse Closed – Golf Shop Closed     |
| • Thursday, December 27  | Clubhouse Closed – Golf Shop Closed     |
| • Friday, December 28    | Clubhouse Closed – Golf Shop Closed     |
| • Saturday, December 29  | Clubhouse Closed – Golf Shop Closed     |
| • Sunday, December 30    | Clubhouse Closed – Golf Shop Closed     |
| • Monday, December 31    | New Year's Eve Dinner Buffet            |
|                          | • <b>Prime Rib &amp; Seafood: 4P-8P</b> |
|                          | • <b>7:45 Champagne Toast</b>           |



We are so excited to offer MGCC Members the opportunity for winter enjoyment via our partnership with the Suite Dreams Hotel. Staff training and coordination between the two facilities is ongoing as we hope to offer a successful partnership for everyone. Here are a few details:

- **The Suite Dreams pool will be available beginning 11/1.**
- Pool hours will be 10A-9P.
- Outside beverages will NOT be allowed at the Suite Dreams.
- Glassware is NOT allowed inside the pool area.
- There will be NO lifeguard on duty and members using the pool are responsible for their personal items.

**Installation of hitting nets IS COMPLETE!**

- Hitting net hours will be the same as pool hours.
- Food / Beverage restrictions remain the same as they are for the pool.
- We will have 5 mats from which to hit balls.
- Members may reserve a “Mat Time” in one-hour increments. “Mat Times” may be reserved by calling the Suite Dreams directly or by calling the club. Please do NOT text or email requests for a “Mat Time”
- One mat will be reserved (when needed for lessons). Lessons will be given at the rate of \$40 / 45 minutes, or “3 pack” of lessons for \$110.
- We hope to provide a 3-week (Saturdays) junior clinic & a 3 week (Saturdays) ladies clinic. Cost will be \$20 / session with student maximum of 3 / session.
- The club will provide Taylor Made TP5 balls and we would like these balls to remain at the Suite Dreams.
- The club will provide chairs placed behind the mats at a safe distance from the hitting areas.
- We will have an area for putting.
- We ask for everyone’s cooperation in keeping our hitting areas neat & organized.
- We ask all members to sign in at the front desk of the Suite Dreams both when utilizing the pool or hitting balls. **Please provide your printed name, signature and members number. Please do this each visit.**
- The club is NOT offering guest fees or reciprocal privileges for the Suite Dreams. Arrangements for utilizing the pool or hitting nets by non-members may be made via the Suite Dreams front desk.
- Members of MGCC will receive priority access to the hitting nets.

## **Tournament Summary**

### **6-6-6 Event - RESULTS**

#### First Flight (payouts / player)

1<sup>st</sup> Place - \$55 Golf Shop Credit  
**Denny Miller / Andy Walk – 75**

2<sup>nd</sup> Place - \$40 Golf Shop Credit  
**Shane Hood / Marshall Creed – 77**

3<sup>rd</sup> Place  
Dave Cline / Dave Haacke – 82

T-4<sup>th</sup> Place  
Terry McFarland / Terry McFarland - 83

T-4<sup>th</sup> Place  
Sam Jurka / Brad Bergstrom - 83

#### Second Flight (payouts / player)

1<sup>st</sup> Place \$55 Golf Shop Credit  
**Chris Whitley / Jordan Bonic - 84**

2<sup>nd</sup> Place - \$40 Golf Shop Credit  
**Todd Hood / Alan McFarland - 87**

3<sup>rd</sup> Place (Lost count-back)  
Chris Summers / Tom Lawrence - 87

4<sup>th</sup> Place  
Rick Moss / Dave Magee - 89

5<sup>th</sup> Place  
Jeff Lynch / Joe Gisondi - 95

6<sup>th</sup> Place  
Brett Shuff / Eldon Gourley – 97

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**Closest to the Pin In Two Shots – Hole #18 – Sam Jurka - \$20 Golf Shop Credit**

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### **Congrats Derek Meinhart!**

Derek has been playing great golf all summer and had a very busy tournament schedule. He played in the Canadian Mid-Am again this year and earned a “Top 10” finish and was invited (& competed) in the US Mid-Am played in Charlotte, NC. He capped off his year last week in Monterey, CA at the Stocker Cup. His eight under par, three-day total was good for a tie for second place in this prestigious event.

## Our Next Golf Event:

### Sunday, November 17

- **Play with a group of your choice**
  - Must be a minimum of 2 players in each group
- **Choose your own tee time; just tee off by noon**
- **\$20 / Player** (includes prizes & a box lunch to take on the course)

### Format:

## One Person Scramble

Players may hit two shots and choose the best location from which to hit the next shot. This process is continued until the ball is holed.

**That's correct. You only have yourself to blame in this one!**

**Sign up in the golf shop**

**Don't' Let Holiday Shopping Sneak Up On You!**



## **Nov. / Dec. Golf Shop Sale**

*“IN-STOCK”* Apparel Items      40%-70% off

*“IN-STOCK”* Headwear      50% off

Credit Book Allowed:  
“IN STOCK” purchases thru December 23!

*Gift Wrapping Available with one day service*