

Ladies and Gentlemen

Nov. 14th, 2011

Thanks again for sacrificing an evening at home to attend the Annual General Meeting of the Glen Meadows Golf Members Association.

Speaking on behalf of the members of the executive we truly appreciate those who, by their attendance tonight, acknowledge the contributions of time, energy & enthusiasm the various volunteers have made while unselfishly serving in various positions of responsibility.

I personally want to thank those who have dutifully served on the current executive. First, my good friend Morley who has looked after the calendar boards and who is ever ready to lend a hand. Next is Anni Jakubowski who has assumed the duties and responsibilities of secretary and who has endeavored to make our website work for us. Terry Wilson, our treasurer, who has kept our bank balance on the right side of the ledger and has paid our bills on time. Our past president, Wayne Carson, continues to offer guidance and assistance.

I have additional praise for our division captains, Joyce Mylymok our Ladies Captain and Bill Fediw who has served our association for 4 years as Men's division captain. Joyce was most conscientious and diligent with her responsibilities. I'm certain she would agree that she found frustrating the slow pace of progress in getting improvements made around the course however there was no lack of trying on her part. I think the members of the Ladies Division would agree that Joyce maintained a good line of communication with her lady golfers at Glen Meadows.

There are few among us at Glen Meadows that have not met Bill Fediw. Probably Bill is one of the longest serving Men's captains if not the longest. His name is synonymous with enthusiasm and dedication. He could be counted on to circulate among the guys drumming up participation for all the club tournaments. When you checked in at the Pro Shop you knew that there would be tournament rules and a personalized score card waiting for you. You also knew that he would be checking your addition and scolding you for errors made. I can certainly attest to that fact. The prize table was always novel and particular attention was given to prizes for all participants no matter the score. Each year Bill organized work bees to stake and mark the course before the club championship tournaments. I could go on with kudos for Bill but suffice to say that I was most grateful for his participation and assistance throughout the year.

Despite the efforts of our volunteers little could be done to avoid the unusually wet spring and the resulting poor playing conditions. Some would argue, fairly or unfairly, that there was inadequate effort expended by the grounds keeping staff to put the course in shape. There can be little doubt that the high degree of frustration with the course conditions is the main reason behind the disturbingly larger number of membership cancelations.

Believe it or not Percy Criddle and family have gotten the message loud and clear. As you might expect, they are worried for the future of their enterprise particularly in light of the fragile economy that is seeing memberships in all golf courses declining. I am advised that they will be circulating a questionnaire among the members seeking constructive ideas that they might incorporate in their business plans. They intend to send this questionnaire by way of email in the very near future and have asked that I do what I can to encourage responses from fellow members.

It behooves us all to offer cooperation and support in this initiative. None of us want to see the course closed due to lack of interest, lack of resources or financial difficulties. I therefore encourage you all to put your constructive thoughts together and be prepared to complete the questionnaire. Should you wish to express your thoughts by way of your association's executive please contact me by email through our website,"gmgma.net".

In the interim I hope you will enjoy the great fall weather and reasonably good playing conditions for as long as it lasts. There is still bounce in the fairways and the greens are as good or better that they have been so far this year.

For the coming year I pledge to work on your behalf to improve where possible the playing conditions on our course and to encourage greater participation in the club events. I also hope that together with management we can reverse the recent trend of membership cancellations and build upon our loyal core of members. I'll certainly be grateful for your support in this endeavor.

In conclusion I'm privileged to acknowledge some special accomplishments. We can boast that five of our members scored holes in one this past season. Hopefully these golfers have already celebrated their achievement and enjoyed ringing the bell and sharing adult beverages with fellow members. We however would like to contribute to the celebration and present to each a small reward that will hopefully re-kindle their happy memories of the event.

I ask that the following members identify themselves and accept and proudly display a golf bag adournment.

Gord Schnell

Gary Crawford

Bob Dallimore

Don McWilliam

Mike Mazzocchi

Thanks again Ladies and Gentlemen for coming out this evening. I hope that most of you will stay for dinner and enjoy a little of the camaraderie with fellow members that Glen Meadows is renown for.

Best wishes to you and your families for a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year filled with good golf shots and low scores.

Bob Cribbs,

GMGMA President