



# Clearwater Country Club Newsletter

September 2019



Inside and outside, the month of September is our time to prepare for the 2019-2020 season. Many parties and events are scheduled throughout the holiday season. Steven and his staff do a tremendous job with events from 20 – 150. If you have any events upcoming, check with the Front Office.

Outside, Kevin and his staff are, also, busy with all their winter preparations. Despite all the rain and hurricane threats, they have finally completed the driving range tee with Platinum Paspalum sod. Also, our third aerification of the year was done on August 29<sup>th</sup>. His staff worked extremely hard all summer long in the Florida heat.

Overall, we are looking for a busy 2019 – 2020 season and want to thank all our CCC employees for a job well done this summer. And to all you members – Thank You for your continued support!

Thanks for your support,  
**Greg McClimans, P.G.A.**

**Welcome New Member: Andrew Willinger**



Visit the **McClimans Golf Academy** online at:  
<http://www.clearwatercountryclub.com/golf/trackman/>



<http://www.facebook.com/clearwater-country-club>



@ mcclimansgolfacademy

@ clearwatercc1921

## Upcoming Events

- Monday, September 2 – **Labor Day / Patriot Golf Day Mixed Scramble & Cookout**: 8:30 AM 18-hole scramble followed by a delicious cookout from 1:00 to 2:30 PM; non-golfers are welcome for the cookout! Non-golfers call the Main Office (446-9501) to RSVP for the cookout / golfers call the Golf Shop (475-8169) to sign up.
- Monday, September 23 – **Pinellas County Men's Interclub Golf Association 2019/2020** season opener: 12:30 PM shotgun start at Feather Sound

## Golf Course Update

I want to thank everyone for staying on the cart paths with all the rain we have had. It really makes a huge difference on the golf course. We will get through this soon enough!

We did our last aerification of the summer on Thursday the 29<sup>th</sup>. This will make the greens soft and receptive for the winter.

We ended up sodding the driving range tee with the same grass that is on the 18<sup>th</sup> green. It's a beautiful color and grows very aggressively. It will be open soon.

We had a downpour on Wednesday the 28<sup>th</sup> that caused a large washout to the left of the #11 blue tee pad, next to the cart path and bridge. It was a really big hole, about 20 feet in diameter and 10 feet deep, with some damage to a few irrigation lines that were in the area. By Friday afternoon it was back-filled, the lines were repaired and we are using the aeration cores to start turf coverage on the area. It will be back up to speed soon.

**Kevin Vereb**  
**Clearwater C.C. Golf Course Superintendent**

## Congratulations

On Tuesday, July 2 **Helen DiGesare** was playing in the **Women's Golf Association** event with **Debbie Chevront** and **Marilyn Gillette**. The threesome came to the par 3 11<sup>th</sup> hole. All three of them teed off and then continued on to the green where they had trouble locating Helen's ball. As the three minute time limit to search for the ball approached, Marilyn said, "let's look in the hole" and sure enough, that's where Helen's Top Flite was! This was her third hole-in-one, having previously aced CCC's 6<sup>th</sup> hole twice!



**Chris Georgopulos** was playing in the American League on Monday, August 19 with **Steve Beneke & Jerry Campbell**. On the very first hole Chris was looking at a 120 yard 2<sup>nd</sup> shot from the fairway. He pulled out his new **Ping G400** 9-iron and put the ball right into the cup for an eagle!

The **Pinellas County Men's Interclub Golf Association** will begin its 43<sup>rd</sup> season this month on the 23<sup>rd</sup> at Feather Sound. The 9-event schedule concludes on May 4, 2020 with the last of the three "playoff events" at Seminole Lake. Clearwater C.C. will host the second playoff event on April 16, 2020.

### Thank You Golfers!

For those of you who stay on the cart paths when requested during wet conditions, fix ball marks, put sand in divots and keep your golf cart 30' from greens & tees, we want  
**Thank You!**

### Rules Quiz

- 1) A ball not in play in the teeing area is knocked off a tee with a practice swing...what is the ruling?
- 2) A ruling by a referee is found to be wrong, it can be corrected if possible, but if too late to do so, the wrong ruling stands. (T or F)

*Continued in the "on-line" version of the newsletter on page 3*

## You're Invited:

**Fabulous Friday Night  
Happy Hour!**

**4 - 6 PM**

**Complimentary Hors d'oeuvres &  
Drink Specials!**



### Labor Day / Patriot Golf Day Mixed Scramble & Cookout

**Monday, September 2 8:30AM Shotgun  
18-Hole Mixed Scramble**

**Delicious Cookout after Golf: Roast Beef &  
Chicken Carving Station, Deviled Eggs,  
Potato Salad, Baked Beans & Ice Cream Sundae  
1:00 - 2:30 PM**

Gross & Net Team Prizes  
Special Events: Closest to the Pin, Longest Drive,  
Straightest Drive & Team Skin Game

Entry Fee (all players) - \$27\*

*\*includes \$2 Folds of Honor Donation,  
Prizes, Team Skin Game, Special Events,  
Cookout & any Golf Fees!*

**Non-golfers Welcome for Cookout!  
(call the Main Office 727-446-9501)**

### September 2019 EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

**Eric Lettie** has been a long-time, dedicated employee at CCC. When he's not at the counter in the golf shop, on any given day he might be coordinating a golf event, resolving an issue on the golf course, updating the website, interpreting a golf rules situation, fixing a computer problem, working on this newsletter, or any number of other tasks. In his spare he puts in over 3K miles / year bike riding on the Pinellas Trail and can occasionally be found playing golf! Eric is a valuable member of the CCC team.



## Rules Quiz Answer

When resolving a rules issue, a good place to start is the "Contents" page at the front of the rulebook. It will usually lead you to the relevant rule for the situation. A search of the contents would have quickly led you right to Rule 6.2 "Playing Ball from Teeing Area" and Rule 20 "Rulings on Issues Under the Rules" for the two situations above and to the "no penalty" and "true" answers, respectively.

*A good resource on the Rules of Golf is the [USGA 2019 Rules and Interpretations](#) web page.*

## Great Deal for Members Only

Sign up for Unlimited Range Balls

for just \$20 / month!

Locker - \$5 / month

Club Storage - \$5 / month

### Drink Recipe of the Month:

#### "Clearwater Caribbean Cosmo"

Rim the lip of your favorite martini glass with crushed coconut. Then chill 2 oz of Parrott Bay (or Malibu Rum). Add ½ oz banana liquor. Then add pineapple & cranberry juice and shake. Pour into martini glass and garnish with a pineapple wedge.

Enjoy!

### Chef Steven's Recipe of the Month:

#### Labor Day Burger

*"Enjoy the end of summer with a burger with kick!"*

#### Ingredients

- 6 slices bacon
- 1 tablespoon bacon drippings
- 1 pound ground beef
- 1 cup dry bread crumbs
- 1 tablespoon red pepper flakes
- 1 pinch freshly ground black pepper
- 1/2 cup shredded Colby-Jack cheese, or more to taste
- cooking spray
- 2 slices Colby-Jack cheese (optional)
- 2 thin tomato slices
- 2 slices avocado



#### Directions

- Place bacon in a large skillet and cook over medium-high heat, turning occasionally, until evenly browned but not totally crisp, about 8 minutes. Drain on paper towels. Retain 1 tablespoon bacon drippings.
- Mix ground beef, bread crumbs, red pepper flakes, black pepper, and retained bacon drippings in a bowl until thoroughly combined; divide meat mixture into 4 equal portions. Form each portion into a large patty, making them as thin as possible. Sprinkle shredded Colby-Jack cheese onto 2 of the patties, leaving an edge about 3/4 inch wide uncovered. Place second patty onto the cheese and press the edges of the patties together to create 2 cheese-stuffed burgers. Place stuffed patties into freezer to chill slightly, about 10 minutes.
- Preheat an outdoor grill for high heat.
- Spray the grill grate with cooking spray and place burgers onto grill; turn heat to low, place lid over grill, and cook until outsides of burgers are lightly charred and cheese has melted, about 10 minutes per side. Maintain grill temperature at about 300 degrees F (150 degrees C). Use a spray bottle of water to control flames; flames should just lightly contact the bottoms of the burgers to create a slight char. After the first flip, place 3 partially-cooked bacon slices onto each burger.
- About 2 minutes before burgers are done, place a Colby-Jack cheese slice onto each burger; top with tomato and avocado slices and transfer burgers to plate to rest for 1 or 2 minutes. Serve burgers on hamburger buns.

#### Our P.G.A. Staff:

**Greg McClimans**

P.G.A. Director of Golf

**Gregory McClimans II**

P.G.A. Head Professional

**Jeff Haney**

P.G.A. Teaching Professional

**Jon Mansfield**

P.G.A. Teaching Professional

**Harrison McClimans**

P.G.A. Apprentice Teaching Professional

**Mike Riso**

P.G.A. Apprentice Teaching Professional

# Game Improvement

## Mike's Golf Tip of the Month

**Think like a US Open champion for lower scores!**



Former U. S. Open champion Tom Kite once played a round of golf with two high level collegiate players. When the round ended, Tom had shot 69, while the two college players each shot 72.

The young players asked Tom why they shot 3 strokes higher than him, when they hit the ball as well as Tom did. Tom replied, that each of the players made at least 3 mental mistakes that he hadn't made.

He further explained that losing 3 shots per round during a 4-day tournament would put them 12 strokes behind him, and the 12 lost strokes were the result of poor decisions on the course.

Here are some hints that will help you avoid making those 3 or more mistakes during your next round.

1. Shoot for the middle of the green on your approach shots. Don't shoot at 'sucker pins' that are cut close to the edge of a green. If you make it a habit to aim away from trouble, you'll start scoring better.

2. Focus on hitting your putts the correct speed on long putts. Not having a good feel for distance on long putts usually leads to a long second putt, and this leads to 3-putts. Practice putting from 20 to 40 feet to develop your feel for distance, and your 3-putts will go down.

3. When you've hit into the trees, get out by using the safest route. Don't try to hit a shot that you might pull off 10 or 20% of the time. Rely on your short game to recover, by practicing your wedges, chipping, sand shots, and putting.

During his time playing the PGA Tour, Tom Kite was one of the shortest hitters, yet his short game was ranked #1 for 10 straight years!

### Mike Riso

Clearwater Teaching Professional

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[www.mikerisogolf.com](http://www.mikerisogolf.com)

## Jeff's Golf Tip of the Month:

**On-Course Lessons**



May through October is a great time to look into on-course lessons. These are not necessarily 9 or 18 hole playing lessons. These lessons are situational lessons, tee shots on certain holes or short game shots you have trouble with, trouble shots from difficult spots. I love to get students on the course and go to certain spots and say, "what would you do from here?" Knowing how to escape trouble can lower your score. Chipping out of trouble is always an option, but sometimes you can do much better if you know the correct options. On-course lessons can also be about the proper course strategy for your skill level, what you should be expecting from your round and where you can make the most improvement.

I am going to be offering some on-course lessons for 1, 2 or 3 students at a time this summer. This will help all involved improve and it sure beats standing on the HOT range for too long. If you are interested, contact Jeff Haney at (727) 365-7235 and we can go over price and times.

**If you need help with any aspect of your game feel free to call or email me!**

### Jeff Haney

P.G.A. Professional

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