

CHAMBERLAIN COUNTRY CLUB

Membership Newsletter • PO Box 56 Chamberlain, SD 57325 • March 2024

THANK YOU!

As we enter the new golf season the entire board would like to start off by saying “Thank you” to each member! We are looking forward to a successful and exciting golf season for 2024!

2024 Projects update: We will hopefully finally be completing the cart path on hole 4 in early spring. We will also be making some improvements to the bridge on hole 6. We are planning to paint the clubhouse this spring and also to replace the trim and re-seal the windows. We are also working with Gill design on the planning for the completion of our Master Plan renovations. At this point we don’t anticipate any construction that would interrupt play this year.

2023 update: 2023 was again a record year for green fees at CCC. We did implement a point-of-sale system in 2023 which gives us some valuable information on when and how people are playing the course.

2024 Practice Range Changes: We have determined we cannot afford to allow free range balls for members as we simply lose too many balls to theft. For 2024 Members will pay \$3 per bag and non-members \$5 per bag of range balls.

Tournament Rates: We have not changed our tournament rates since 2001 when they were changed to \$15 per person. For 2024 Tournament Rates will be \$15 per person for 9 holes, \$25 for 18 holes, and \$40 for 27 holes. Please see the attachment for our full updated tournament parameters.

League Scoring: The golf board traditionally has not set the rules or format for our leagues. It has been up to the various leagues to determine this. The board has, however, heard many concerns about the scoring system and we have discussed it at length. It is our opinion that likely the fairest way to address this would be to change the scoring system to a true 2-person team best ball format. Please see the attachment for the change.

Cart Rules and course etiquette:

We all need to pitch in to help Shawn continue to maintain and improve course conditions. We are being consistently told by our industry experts that cart traffic and compaction are major contributors to turf quality. We have urged people to pair up in carts when possible, for several years, but are still also seeing far too often violations of our basic cart rules around greens, as well as too many people simply racing around the course in large groups of solo rider carts to see how many holes they can play. Therefore, in 2024 we are implementing some industry standards for cart usage rules. Please see the reminders for the new policy.

2024 Member Appreciation Masters Kickoff!

-April 13th. Please see the enclosure for details.

Check out our website (www.chamberlaingolf.com) and Facebook page for updates throughout the year!

UPDATES INCLUDED IN THIS MAILING

-other events, announcements, and reminders

DATES OF IMPORTANCE

Club Opening Day	April 13
Men’s League Meeting	April 30
Men’s League Starts	May 7
Women’s Org. Meeting	May 8
Women’s League Starts	May 15
Club and Course Close	October 18

Please watch for other events throughout the year.

2024 Fee Schedule		
	Cost Prior to April 24, 2024	Cost After April 24, 2024
Family/Couple	\$575	\$625
Single	\$450	\$500
Senior (Single / age 75)	\$315	\$365
Senior Couple	\$380	\$430
College	\$130	\$150
Grade/High School	\$100	\$100
Cart Shed Rent (gas)	\$250	\$250
Cart Shed Rent (elect)	\$300	\$300

- **Please Mail Dues to:**
 - Chamberlain Country Club PO Box 56 Chamberlain, SD 57325
- **Please use the enclosed membership form.**
- **If you pay via CC at the clubhouse, you will be charged an additional \$20 fee to cover Carol’s processing cost.**
- **If you split the cost of cart shed, simply indicate who with.**

Board of Directors: Jason Pullman • Kelli Pazour • Steve Breeding • Nicki Konechne • Kurt Kelsey

City Representative: Jason Stone

Secretary: Trevor McDonald **Superintendent:** Shawn Powers **Club House Manager:** Carol Powers

2024 Chamberlain Country Club Announcements and Reminders

Divot Sand Bottles--- The board is selling sand bottles for you to attach to your golf carts. We are pricing them at \$10, which is half of our cost. Properly filling divots on the tee boxes goes a long way in speeding the recovery. Please consider purchasing one for your cart! (sand mix will be provided at the course in the large green box outside the clubhouse)

New Cart Rules: We will be requiring golfers to pair up in carts whenever possible. We understand there are some situations where you end up with a single rider or an extra cart. It happens, but we have had complaints from members about large single rider groups out on the course as well as several people making absolutely no effort to pair up during leagues and/or open golfing. These are not rules the golf board enjoy having to make, but the board, along with our city representatives will be fully supporting Carol and Shawn enforcing these rules until we can get this problem under control. We have had discussions with turf experts, custom aerators, course builders and golf architects and their responses are the same. Single rider carts when unnecessary are hurting the quality of the turf.

Beginning in 2024 these are the new Rules:

- Golfers are required to pair up in carts whenever possible
- there is now a 3 cart MAXIMUM allowed for any playing group

We intend to be as understanding as possible in enforcing these rules, however any violation of these rules may result in the following being issued: 1) verbal warning 2) written warning, or 3) suspended access to the course and/or suspension of membership.

Cart Paths--- Please keep your carts COMPLETELY ON THE PATH around the greens and tee boxes.

Tee Times—As we all have seen there are times that our course is quite busy, and Carol has advised us that it is much better for the flow of play when we make tee times. So please be aware that there will be times when she will require a tee time to play. We would like everyone to call the clubhouse and check in with her if the course is very busy so that she can keep things moving.

2024 Fundraising Raffle—Watch for announcements as tickets will be available soon! Please contact a board member, Carol, or Shawn to purchase or for details. Thank you for supporting our raffles they allow us to continue to improve the course and purchase equipment upgrades as we confront increasing operating costs.

2024 Member Appreciation Masters Kickoff— Saturday April 13th at the clubhouse (1-7pm)

Please join us to watch the Masters Tournament to kick start the 2023 golf season.

- free appetizers and tap beer for 2023 members and 2024 paid members.
- course may or may not be open pending spring weather, full kitchen may not be available.
- We will have an open discussion from 1-2pm regarding new league scoring, cart rules, etc.

The board would like to ask everyone to please thank our tee box and scorecard advertisers, as well as the numerous individuals who have supported our raffles, or made donations over the past few years.

It has been a combined effort by the membership, guests, and the local community to continue to make many improvements to the course that wouldn't be possible without everyone. THANK YOU!

2024 Tournament Rates and Parameters

- all tournaments or events that close the golf course to regular member play will be presented to and approved by the golf board.
- tournament participants are not allowed to play or practice on the course before or after the tournament without approval from the clubhouse and potentially getting a tee time, this is an effort to allow any non-tournament members the best opportunity to play golf on tournament days
- any non-members playing extra golf outside of the tournament round will be required to pay normal green fees
- The clubhouse and the golf board reserve the right to require any tournament to run their tournament or event with set tee times vs. closing the course. This will be on a case-by-case basis as we are trying to avoid closing the course for small events.

Tournament rates for 2024 are as follows:

- 9 hole per person fee is \$15
- 18 hole per person fee is \$25
- 27 hole per person fee is \$40

All tournaments will have the same rates, the only exceptions would be a members only, club sponsored tournament, such as the Labor Day event or a club championship type event.

League Scoring Update

- League members not pairing up in carts, when possible, will forfeit points for that day.**
- currently our scoring system is for a 2-person team vs. a 2-person team works as follows (prior to any handicap adjustment, for this discussion in both scoring examples we will assume all four players have the same zero handicaps). Team A players shot 5 and 6 for a total of 11, Team B players shot 5 and 5 for a total of 10. Team B would win the hole by one stroke and get one point. Each hole is worth 1 point and the low team 9-hole total would get 1 additional team point.
- Problems arise when players are gone, we have basically 3 options: use a ghost, get a sub to cover for you, or you simply lose by not having a full team.

-Taking an absent player's score from a previous week and inserting them in the system cannot be allowed as you cannot use fake scores in any handicapping system.

2024 scoring change will be to a true 2-person team best ball competition. The board has made the decision to implement this system for all leagues.

- handicaps will continue to be used as normal
- there will be no ghosts or artificial scores of any kind
- if a team only has one player, they have 2 options
 1. get a substitute for the missing player, the sub must have a handicap with our current league system.
 2. play the match as one player vs. the other two-man team
- if both players on a team are absent, they simply will forfeit all points.

New scoring example: Team A players shot a 4 and a 7, Team B players shot a 5 and a 6. Team A will take the 4 and team B will take the 5, therefore team A wins the point for the hole with a 4. The team point at the end will go to the lowest total score on the 9 holes.