



## *From the President*

Welcome to Summer at ECC!

This is the first ECHO of the year and, if you're like me, this year has already seemed to go on and on - thanks to the unpredictability of the COVID-19 era we're living in. But, thankfully, things are getting better and loosening up!

On behalf of your ECC Board, I want you to know that our goal is to give you, your family and friends the best possible experiences at ECC in spite of the ever changing dynamics of the situation.

I feel like we are already starting ahead of the game as we have a great, experienced crew returning and enthusiastic new folks coming to help us enjoy our club.

Jen and company will lead the way with managing our ProShop and restaurant. You'll see more details in this issue, but the ProShop will open May 22 and the Restaurant will begin offering Take-Out (and maybe more as regulations are lifted) by June 2.

Rachel tells me the golf course is in the best shape ever for this time of year. She, Doug and the rest of the crew are working hard and winter, for a change, was more helpful than hurtful.

Volunteers are already doing their "thing" as exciting events and plans are coming your way; flowers adorn and many improvements to the club have already been made.

While we are all facing challenges we never expected, we thank you for your loyalty to ECC and ask for your patience and understanding as we work through this new world together.

So, again...welcome to summer! Please participate, take a lead in volunteer efforts and enjoy this year with your family and friends at ECC.

Sincerely,

John Hovanec, President, Board of Directors



## **Remember Memorial Day . . . as a new flag flies over ECC**

ECC is honored this year to receive a very special American Flag to replace the current, well-worn flag overlooking Lake Eshquaguma.

The flag is a special gift to Eshquaguma Country Club from St. Louis County Commissioner Keith Nelson. This new flag has flown over the U.S. Capitol and was provided to the Club through the efforts of the House Decorating

Committee working with Commissioner Nelson.

The tradition of providing these special flags began in 1937 and has grown to a demand last year that reached almost 122,000 flags. Along with the flag, we also received a certificate that records the occasion. We offer a special thank you to Commissioner Nelson for honoring ECC in this very special way.

## Eshquaguma Country Club

6469 White Pine Lane, Gilbert, MN 55741

Phone: 218-865-4263 • Pro Shop: 218-865-4706

Bookkeeper: 218-750-2033

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

## Upcoming Events

**ALL EVENTS ARE TENTATIVE DUE TO COVID-19 REGULATIONS**

**May 25** Memorial Day

**May 27** Ladies' and Men's Golf Begins

**June 3** Ladies' Business Meeting - Noon

**June 5** 1st Happy Hour - 3-5:30 p.m.

**June 6** Opening Party - 6:00 p.m.

**June 11** Ladies' Book Club - 7 p.m.

**June 19** Smear Tourney - 7 p.m.

**June 20** Golf Event 3 p.m. and  
Dance Band at 8 p.m.

**June 21** Father's day Brunch - 10 a.m.  
- 1 p.m.

**June 21, 22, 25, 26** Youth Golf -  
a.m.. See page 5 for details.

**June 21-25** Youth Tennis - p.m. See  
page 5 for details.

**June 26** Fish Fry - p.m.

## New POS System

You hopefully won't notice any difference, but ECC is implementing a new POS (Point of Sale) system this year that will function in both the Restaurant and ProShop. New hardware and software will be installed prior to opening. We are expecting a quicker and more accurate checkout process and we will gain efficiencies with bookkeeping.

Of course, any billing system begins with accuracy and to attain that we request that you tell your server what your member number is at first, when you sit-down or when you order by phone. Yes, they'll remember many of us, but it is best for all to simply make note of it at first avoiding any complications and confusion.



## Restaurant Update

Hello Members.

Wow what a time we are living in. Obviously many activities planned for the summer have had to be cancelled but we are going to try to keep as many activities on the calendar as possible.

The biggest change is going to be the restaurant. We are going to have to comply with regulations. But the chefs will be back to make us the quality entrees we have all learned to love.

The situation is going to evolve over the summer so I will be posting each Monday "The Week at a Glance".

The chefs will be here this weekend and the Restaurant will open June 1. Yeah!

Alex will be leading the team and the take out menu will be outstanding.

Please be patient as we navigate these difficult times

I look forward to seeing all of you.  
Eat Well, Cathy Lisenby

## New ECC Bookkeeper

An expert in Quickbooks and very experienced bookkeeper, Shelby and her company Essential Office Services will handle ECC's bookkeeping duties this year. She has had many administrative and financial responsibilities over the last 20 years and started her own company in 2012. Shelby joins us at the same time we begin using our new POS system and we believe all will be handled quicker and faster and will benefit by Shelby's experience. She can be reached at [ecbkkkr@gmail.com](mailto:ecbkkkr@gmail.com).

## ECC's Annual Membership Meeting Is Set

While balancing the busy Eshquaguma Country Club schedule, the Board has set Sunday, August 31 at 1p.m. for the annual membership meeting.

At this meeting you'll hear reports on all of the Club's activities and vote for new members to take a seat on the Eshquaguma Country Club's Board of Directors.



## '20 Directories are here!

Stop by the ProShop and pick up your 2020 directory. One free to each membership. If you'd like another it will be \$8.00 to help us cover costs.

Many thanks to Kris Coombe and Jim Balfour – the primary drivers behind this year's directory. And, very special thanks to our advertisers who really stepped up to the plate this year! Please support them in the same way they are supporting ECC.



# ECC Golf Course is Open!

**And, for a limited time . . . all shots are going long and straight!**

The ECC Golf Course looks terrific. Rachel and Doug are back with a few additional crew coming on as needed. The course opened for play on May 1 and golfers say it has seldom looked better on opening day! A large part of this is thanks to our Crew, the improvements made to the irrigation system last year and yes, mother nature and luck play a role, too!

Of course, we will following typical guidelines for golf that have been endorsed by the MGA and the State Health Department but, we don't

expect those to hinder the play and enjoyment of being outdoors with your golf buddies.

Though we don't have an exact date yet, aeration will take place soon. This process makes the course look a little rough for a few days, but is key to growing thick, vibrant turf on our course. We'll send an e-blast when it is scheduled. Sorry for the inconvenience...but it is healthy and necessary.

Enjoy your rounds! And, hey... enjoy those putts that any other time might be deemed questionable!

## Pro-Shop Opens Friday, May 22

This year we welcome back Jen as our Clubhouse Manager in charge of both the ProShop and the Restaurant. Jen has been busy all week getting things ready; the Pro-Shop will officially open on Friday May 22. We hope to have it staffed during "normal" hours, but while we sort through guidelines and regulations, please bear with us on scheduling and service issues.

With COVID-19 restrictions in place we will limit the number of people in the Pro-Shop to no more than 5 at a time. If possible, please wear a mask. We also ask that you don't congregate or socialize inside the building. This policy of course will be fluid, all policies will be posted on the doors to the ProShop. For the safety of our employees and members please follow posted policies and practice the standard social distancing guidelines.

The Pro-Shop will have new merchandise in soon, (due to COVID-19 some manufacturers are shipping later than normal). As always, we can special order many products (golf bags, shoes, clothing etc.) from Titleist, FootJoy, Sun Mountain, Greg Norman and others. Please see Jen for more information.

## Golf Handicaps have a new system!

This year the USGA moved to a new World Handicap System. The system to enter your scores has changed and will be available in the Pro-Shop. You can also enter your scores using the GHIN Mobile phone app or at [www.ghin.com](http://www.ghin.com). If you need your GHIN number call or email the Pro-Shop.

- Phone: 218-865-4706
- Email: [eccgolfproshop@gmail.com](mailto:eccgolfproshop@gmail.com)

For more information on the World Handicap System visit: [www.usga.org/content/usga/home-page/handicapping.html](http://www.usga.org/content/usga/home-page/handicapping.html)

## 2020 Ladies' ECC Golf

Ladies' Golf League games begin on Wednesday, June 3rd, and continue throughout the season. Games are set for each week, with 9 hole golfers teeing off around 9:30 and 18 hole golfers teeing off around 8:15. Based on restrictions for the restaurant, take-out lunch will be available along with outside seating, keeping social distancing in mind. League dues are

\$50 and allow you to participate in the Team Event, Handicap Tournament, Fun Day, and Ladies' ECC Club Tournament. We have a lot of fun and find it's a great time for camaraderie. If you're a golfing member, join the league and sign up every week in the Pro Shop so we know who will be playing. If you have questions, contact Jane Stunkard, President of the Women's Club.

## Help Needed

Instructors are needed for the Youth Tennis week. If you are interested, contact Jane Stunkard. If we can't find anyone, there won't be a youth tennis clinic this year.

# ECC Men's Club

## 2020 Preview

Despite a traditional spring opening and dry conditions, golf across the country is off to a rocky start due to COVID-19. ECC is not immune to this slow start however the future seems positive. The Golf Channel is reporting more than 80 percent of golf courses are now open in the USA and more events are popping up on the summer calendar.

As of right now, the two featured events sponsored by the ECC men's club, Men's Guest Day and the Men's Tournament are still being planned as usual. Be on the lookout for more information in a subsequent ECC ECHO.

## Weekly Men's Day

For 2020, there'll be an added focus on Friday afternoon golf at ECC for men's games and friendly competition. The last few years, the traditional Wednesday Men's Days have turned a bit ghostly with very poor participation. Anybody interested in dedicating some time to organize and lead the weekly men's golf program at ECC should contact Matt Uhan – [matt@gilbertbank.com](mailto:matt@gilbertbank.com).

With a little organization and some crafty ideas, the men's golf program at ECC can come back to life.

## Update on Titleist Orders

The Titleist loyalty rewards program spring golf ball order was delayed due to COVID-19. Good news – Acushnet Company (Titleist and Footjoy) employees were just allowed back to work on May 18th. The loyalty reward custom golf balls will now begin to process as originally ordered. Be on the lookout for your precious FedEx packages in 4-5 weeks. Stock golf ball and Footjoy shoe orders will be processed and shipped this week! Another positive sign the golf industry is ramping up for the season!



Laura Hughes

Ahhhhh... it won't be long before sunny skies appear and the July Fourth Celebration at ECC will follow! See page 6 for details on how you can help with this wonderful ECC tradition. More information will follow.

# June 22-26: Youth Golf & Tennis Week

We are hoping to still run the Youth Golf & Tennis week this summer, however we will need more volunteers to make this happen.

**GOLF:** Due to social distancing requirements, parents/grandparents will need to be there with their kids for golf. You do not need to be an instructor, but we need you to chaperone the kids. We will need one chaperone per two kids. So when you sign up your kids, you'll need to sign up yourself as well. If you can be an instructor, please indicate that as well.

Here are the age groups and times:

- Group A 9:30 - 11:30 Ages 12-14
- Group B 10:00 - 11:00 Ages 9-11
- Group C 10:30 - 11:30 Ages 7 & 8

Cost for the Golf Clinic is \$25.00. Cash or check please – do not charge to your account.

Each participant needs their own clubs, drinking water, and hand sanitizer.

Golf Clinic runs June 22, 23, 25, 26. There will not be a pizza party on Friday this year.

**TENNIS:** We are still trying to find instructors, so this is tentative at this point. Check with the Pro Shop in June.

Here are the age groups and times:

- Group A 1:00 to 2:00 Ages 8-12
- Group B 2:00 to 3:30 Ages 13 - up

Cost is \$35—cash or check please—do not charge to account. Bring your own tennis racket, non-marking court shoes, drinking water, sunscreen, and hand sanitizer.

The Tennis Clinic runs June 22, 23, 24, 25.

## May

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
24	MEMORIAL DAY 25	26 ERA - a.m.	27 Ladies' Day Golf Games Begin Men's Golf 1:15 p.m.	28	29 ERA - a.m.	30
31						

## June

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2 ERA - a.m.	3 Ladies' Golf a.m. Business Meeting Noon Men's Golf 1:15 p.m.	4	5 ERA - a.m. Happy Hour 3-5:30 p.m.	6 Opening Party 6 p.m.
7	8	9 ERA - a.m.	10	11	12 ERA - a.m. Happy Hour 3-5:30 p.m.	13
14	15	16 ERA - a.m.	17 Ladies' Golf a.m. Men's Golf 1:15 p.m. Ladies' Book Club 7 p.m.	18	19 ERA - a.m. Happy Hour 3-5:30 p.m. Smear Tourney 7 p.m.	20 Golf Event 3 p.m. Ugly Tie Contest Cowboy Angel Blue - 8:00 p.m.
FATHER'S DAY 21 Father's Day Brunch 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.	22 Youth Golf a.m. Youth Tennis p.m.	23 Youth Golf a.m. Youth Tennis p.m.	24 Ladies' Golf a.m. Youth Tennis p.m. Men's Golf 1:15 p.m.	25 Youth Golf a.m. Youth Tennis p.m.	26 Youth Golf a.m. Adult Happy Hour 3-5:30 p.m. Fish Fry	27
28	29	30 ERA - a.m.				

All events are tentative due to COVID-19 regulations

# ECC's 2020 Fabulous Fourth

The theme for the Eshquaguma's 2020 Fourth of July celebration is **Fabulous 4th!** In celebration of this great country's 244th birthday, let us shine, dress, and bling "up" in our finest red, white and blues. Leading the festivities are going to be the five grand marshals of parade; Gerry Carey, Micki Day, Mary Louise Meredith, Donah Sten, and Loretta Russ – also known as 'The Fabulous Five'.

## Activities and food planning is underway!

Volunteers appreciated and needed:

- Parade line-up/Judges 10:30-11:00 (2-3 people)
- Announcement & handout parade prizes: 11:00-11:20 (3-4 people)
- Parade start: 11:30
- Organized activities 12:30-2:00 (7 people)
- Please email [noble024@umn.edu](mailto:noble024@umn.edu) if you are interested in helping.

## Medallion Hunt

Once again, there will be another ECC Medallion hunt. The clues will be broadcast via mass e-mail only. Pay attention to the clues for your chance

to win a \$100 ProShop credit donated by the Men's Club.

## The ECC Band

Attention members, guests, kids, grand-kids, nieces and nephews! If you can carry a tune, we need you for the ECC marching band. The band plays the *Minnesota Rouser*, *Notre Dame Victory March*, *America the Beautiful* and the *Star Spangled Banner*. This is an ECC tradition unlike any other!

Please contact Kris Coombe ([lostlakeshores@gmail.com](mailto:lostlakeshores@gmail.com)) or Matt Uhan ([matt@gilbertbank.com](mailto:matt@gilbertbank.com)) to report for duty! Music will be provided.

## Dumpster Juice Open awards its Green Jacket

The field enjoyed a beautiful day for golf on Saturday, May 16. A total of 39 players (22 members and 17 guests) were so anxious to get out that the Dumpster Juice Open – usually a fall affair – was played in May with the ongoing reprieve, "this is so much fun – let's do it again!"

Highlights included the largest "mini" tournament we've had with those 39 players. Hosted by Jim "Juice" Fritz, the regular Dumpster Juice Open is held in the fall.

**Winner of first nine:** Net handicap tournament winner in a score-card playoff was Kyle Kurr, who gets the lovely green, velvet jacket. Second place went to Carver Richards.

Hamburgers and hot dogs were served at the turn.

**Second nine: Two-person scramble:** Winners were Ryan "Harty" Hartwell and Michael "Gergs" Gergen who also beat out 18 other teams in the shoot-out. Second place went to Jim Fritz and Troy Hughes.

Pizza and bonfire at the Fritz compound concluded the fun for all!



Kyle Kurr



Jim Fritz, Ryan Hartwell, Michael Gergen, Troy Hughes



Jim and Kyle

# 2020 ECC Promotions

Among the many new promotions that ECC is offering this year are the following Membership Categories:

**Previous Members Rejoin** is available to previous Corporate members who left the club in good standing over a year ago. Dues \$1,150 (plus tax) no initiation fee. 2nd year of membership would be at the regular Corporate price. This is a limited time offer good through May 31st.

**Student Season Pass** available to the first 20 applicants ages 16-22 who love to play golf and are not currently covered by a family membership. Dues \$200.00 (plus tax) includes one (1) large bucket of range balls per round.

## “Name a Chair” Fundraiser a Big Success!

We are excited to announce all nameplates have been installed! A big thank you to all who donated and participated in ECC’s latest fundraiser. All nameplates have been sold and an astounding \$4,880 has been raised with proceeds earmarked for improvements to the Grill Room. Projects are underway and will continue throughout the season. Once again, the generous members of Eshquaguma have made this possible. Congratulations!



**Golf Trial Punch Card**

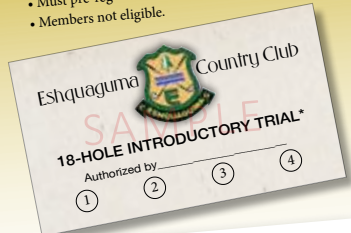
We're sure you will love Eshquaguma Country Club that we are offering a Trial Membership with the purchase of a Punch Card.

For \$125, you can enjoy **four** 18-hole rounds of golf. After golf, we invite you to enjoy our restaurant!

- Limit of 1 punch card per person.
- Must pre-register at 218-865-4706.
- Members not eligible.

16-22 years old. \$200 dues (plus tax) includes one (1) large bucket of range balls per round.

218-865-4706  
eccproshop@gmail.com  
105 White Pine Lane, Gilbert  
Restrictions apply



**Golfers! Give it Your Best Shot at Eshquaguma Country Club!**

**WE WANT YOU TO TRY US; YOU'LL LIKE US!**

For a limited time, you can play four 18-hole rounds at Eshquaguma Country Club for one fee of \$125. This offer is open to non-members only to introduce you to the beautiful Eshquaguma Country Club and its historic 105-year-old classic golf course. The details: purchase a \$125 punch card which entitles you to four 18-hole rounds. Reservation required, with a few date restrictions. Limit of one punch card per person. Pre-register at 218-865-4706. So jump in your car and head out for a new adventure! We are less than an hour from Duluth and only 45 minutes from Hibbing.

**Eshquaguma Country Club**  
6469 White Pine Lane, Gilbert, MN 55741  
Ph 218-865-4706 • email: eccproshop@gmail.com