



## BENSON GOLF CLUB NEWS

Spring/Summer 2004

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### Course Open and Ready for Play

The official opening of the Benson Golf Course was on March 26th. That is two years in a row that a mild winter has given way to an early start of the golf season.

This looks to be a great season of golf. The leagues are getting finalized, tournaments are getting planned and memberships are coming in at a good rate. A pleasant surprise this year is the activity that comes along with our premium memberships. Many of you anteed up and the Golf Club greatly appreciates it.



If you try to post scores in the GHIN computer and you are listed as "inactive" and you wish to continue with your handicap, please let the pro shop know

and we would be happy to activate you.

Exciting news for the upcoming year should make you all smile. The Minnesota Golf Association has recognized the Benson Golf Club as a host site for a State Amateur Qualifying site. This is a great honor and it should classify BGC as a premiere golf course in Central Minnesota.

Every other Friday night in June, July and August we will be having couples events. A small tournament format will be established, prizes given and the social committee will be recruiting help to serve meals for the participants as well as create themes for each event. It should be a great time for everyone ,so I invite each and everyone to participate. If you

have guests in town, they are more than welcome to join in on the fun. This is a low key FUN event with just a twist of competition.

Please get a current e-mail to the club. My goal by the end of the season is to go electronic with news, league information, and newsletters. Soon you will be able to go to our website and find information on tournaments, league schedules and standings, and any other information that is important to you. If you wish to get our newsletters by mail, please let me know and I would be happy to mail you the newsletters.

Here's to fairways and greens.

*Barrett*

Don't Hurry. Don't Worry. You're only here on a short visit, so don't forget to stop and smell the flowers.

*Walter Hagen*

#### Upcoming Events

- *May 11th - Men's League 1st Match*
- *May 13th - Green Aeration*  
*Course Closed—volunteers needed*
- *May 22nd - 5 person Scramble Planting Day*
- *June 2nd - Women's League 1st Match*
- *June 12th - Ladies 3 Scramble*
- *June 13th - Hoium Best Ball*
- *June 19th - Danvers Scramble*
- *June 21st - Junior PGA*
- *June 28th - State Am Qualifier*

### The Course is Green

I am pleased to say that the course came through the winter fairly well. We had some winter kill throughout the fairways, but soon, that should grow in. The greens look to be coming along shortly and they should green up shortly as well.

The old saying, "washing your car will bring rain" seemed to pertain to our irrigation system this year. We started our system up on the 21<sup>st</sup> after nearly a week of struggles with the hydraulic tubing. The tubing is the reason why we are always late to get the water on. Shortly after finishing our first application on the greens we discovered 4 breaks throughout the course, one directly off the pump house by #1 men's tee.

I want to thank my crew for getting the irrigation back to working order quickly. Thankfully, this all happened early in the season.

Once again we will be running the adopt-a-flowerbed program. We enjoy having the members put their signature touch to the course. WE will be soon organizing a planting day for everyone to come out and plant. Anyone wishing to help out in any way, either with planting, donations, or with anything else, please contact me at 843-2109. Although you are free to design your designated flowerbed anyway, we encourage the use of perennials.

I would like to also remind everyone how impor-

tant it is to repair your ball marks on the green. When a mark is made on the green either by the impact of a ball or even by a mis-swing of a club, it can cause a compacted area that the bent-grass will no longer be able to survive in. Using a divot repair tool to relieve the compaction inside the mark can heal the wound. Should you not repair the mark; the grass will soon die to a bare spot and will soon be replaced with the weed *Poa annua*. *Poa* is an undesirable plant on the green because of its capability of producing seed heads at extremely short mowing heights. This can cause the ball to putt unsmooth and just may cause you that eagle.

Here's to a great season and hope to see you all out at the course.

Cleveland Golf Demo Day  
Tuesday June 1st 1-4  
Come try the latest in golf equipment technology.

### Junior Golf in 2004

BGC is excited to announce two junior golf programs for the summer. The ever popular Junior Clinic is an instruction program designed for the junior golfer. Our playing league had some success in its inaugural year but a new revamped league should add more opportunity for junior golfers to—get out and play. Stop by or call for more information about our junior programs. Junior programs are NOT designated to only our members. Everyone is invited to participate.

**Welcome New Members to the Golf Club Family:**

Bill Bridgeland Family	Jamie Naig
Brent Haugen Family	Lee Himley
Rod Lye Family	Shawn Narragon
Tim Andreas	Adrian Smith Family
Darwin Dahl	Ronny Woitte
Jonas Grossman	Steve Collins
Kathy Holten	Doug Anderson
Mark Holten	Dennis Johnson
Justin Jeffery	Anne Velde
Tanner Johnson	**Plus many Jr and college members
David Larson Family	
Peter Melby	



**Volunteers Needed:** The Benson Golf Club is seeking volunteers to help with the green aeration process on Thursday May 13th. The more help the faster the golf course will be ready to play. We provide lunch at 11:00 and help begins at noon. If you have the day open we wish to ask your assistance on this day. Please bring a course bristle broom. Thank you in advance.

Course Superintendent—Sally



**Fun Fact:**

Ever lip out a putt and need an excuse besides yourself? Many people “dig-out ” their ball out of hole which can actually cause the soil around the hole to lift up. By “dig-out ”, I mean pulling the ball out of the hole using methods other than the hand. Please be on the lookout for

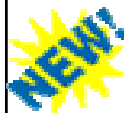


Thanks to the many members that have donated to our premium membership program. To date over 30 members have donated a “little extra” to the success of the club. There is time to take advantage of this program. With any level of donation you will receive range privileges and a special guest green fee rate for your guests.

***League Schedules, League Standings, Tournament Registration, Tournament Results, Current News and much more are going to be available on our website [bensongolfclub.com](http://bensongolfclub.com)***

**Check it out!!!**

**West Central Golf Card Available**



New this year is a project put together by local golf course owners and pros. It is called the *West Central Golf Card* and it promotes travel between members of clubs. The card sells for only \$15 to BGC members and allows you to play each course twice at a discounted rate. Many course s honor the program on weekends. Cart rental is required. Take advantage of this program to play our local golf courses. The price for a non member of BGC is \$40. To see the courses in the program, check out the [bensongolfclub.com](http://bensongolfclub.com) website and click on the West Central Golf Card navigator button.



**Fun fact:**

Did you know that applying bug spray while on the grass can leave a lasting impression throughout the season? When bug spray contacts grass, it can actually burn the grass leaving imprints of the feet. So, what sized are you?