

Huron Pines

December 1, 2009

2010 Rates

- Single Adult \$940.00
- Children \$90.00
- Student \$470.00
- Junior \$160.00

Late Fee After Feb 1, 2010

Registration Payments Can be Made at the Town Office or Mailed to Huron Pines Box 2041 Blind River

ONCE AGAIN IF YOU HAVE ANY OLD BATH TOWELS PLEASE SAVE THEM FOR US.

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President's Message

Presidents Message

The 2009 golf season has just ended and we're already gearing up for next year. I'm sure everyone can remember the good shots and times they had and have a vague recollection of the few bad shots. The 2009 season saw us celebrating our 25th Anniversary. The 2010 golf season begins our next 25 years which will I'm sure be as great as our last.

We once again have the same board with the same goal to keep Huron Pines the best course in the north. The board will be working very hard over the winter to come up with ideas to generate revenue or lower expenses. Thanks to the Town of Blind River we were able to clear up some of our debt load and we now own our carts and mowers. This took a lot of pressure off us financially but we still need to generate income for the day to day operations.

With inflation, along with minimum wage increasing again in 2010 plus the fluctuating fuel will prove to be very challenging.

Peter and his dedicated staff take great pride in their work and are very devoted to Huron Pines. They work tirelessly to ensure we continue to have the best course in the north. Trevor along with RJ were constant figures in the pro shop ready to serve you with a smile. We are always receiving compliments from visitors about the friendly atmosphere and how welcome they feel while playing at Huron Pines. Trevor has vowed to golf more next year. I really don't think it will help him much but he can dream.

Come spring when the snow is leaving and the temperatures warming up I'm sure everyone will be anxious to start playing. There is an issue with people playing before we open. It is not a matter of losing revenue but more of a concern for



the grass. At that time of the year the grass is still dormant and very sensitive to damage. By playing on it and taking divots etc. (especially the greens) the grass may not recover. So if you could PLEASE not hit balls or play the course until we are open it would be appreciated. We will always open as early as Peter feels the course can handle play.

I hope everyone has a great off season and I hope to see everyone in the spring. Remember the board meets the second Wednesday of every month (even in the winter) any everyone is welcome to come out and see what is going on.

Wayne Berthelot

President Huron Pines

If you can pay early it will certainly be appreciated as we still have to pay certain loan payments., hydro and phone. Memberships can be paid at the Town Office

Ladies Night

LADIES NIGHT

Ladies Nights seemed to run smoothly and they averaged 17 players per night.

If anyone has any suggestions to make these nights more enjoyable or has any different games we can play, please do not hesitate to let the Pro Shop know.

We encourage all in-



terested ladies, and bring friends, golfers or not, to come out and join in the fun. We are only there for a good time and of course, the food.

The Ladies Invitational, under the planning talents of Anne Astles, is scheduled for the second weekend in August and we hope to see the tournament grow

even more in 2010 .

Last year, we saw 100 ladies participate and we would like to see more this year. Spread the word, it's a good time. Congratulations to our 2009 winners.

Mary Shamas Senior Club Champion

Theresa Maurice Low Gross Club Champion & Rhonda Peltier Net Champion

Remember Our New Improved Payment Plan:

For the 2010 Season you will have two choices for your membership Payment.

1. Give us one cheque in the full amount by February 1st 2010

2. Or you can give us 4 post dated cheques, One for January 31, One for February 28th, One cheque for March 31st and One cheque for April 30th.

3. These Cheques are in 4 equal payments and must be given with your

registration form by your first Payment of January 31st.

4. After Feb 1 2010 the \$100 late fee will be applicable, so please select your payment plan ASAP.

Men's Night

Men's night was very successful except for the weather for the 2009 season thanks to RJ Morningstar,.

The number of participants were down from previous years and we averaged 84 players per week.



Congratulate our 2009 winners:

Jon Groteluschen Senior Club Champ

Ryan Hagger Club Champion

Joe Degraw Net Champion

Jon Groteluschen Match Play Champion

& Dean St Jules as Runner Up.

Don't Forget If you want to reserve your ladies or men's night tee times you must pay in advance with your registration form to guarantee your time. One person can pay for whole team or each individual will pay the \$5.00

NEW RATES 2010 & HST

New Rates **are increased** for the 2010 season which as a member or as your manager we did not want to see. However there are some things that are just out of the control of a manager or your board of directors.

This March 1, 2010 the minimum wage in Ontario is going up 7.89% and the effect on our wages will be an increase of \$7503.25.

Over the last 3 years minimum wage has increased over 28%, This additional expense will affect the operations for

this year and every year in the future.

The 5.6% increase (\$50 on a single) barely covers the additional wage expenses, so expected increases in fuel, hydro, insurance and maintenance will have to come from further cuts in expenses or an increase in green fee play (which is unpredictable).

Fortunately interest rates remain low and our leasing cost will be lower. "Our" fleet of 48 carts require maintenance to help ensure another five years of rental service.

On July 1st 2010 the Harmonized Sales Tax will become law.

For the consumer this will mean that on everything you purchase there will be an additional 8% tax, instead of paying only the 5% GST on select items (ie, green fees, memberships etc),

From the golf course's perspective we hope to see PST rebates where previously there were none.

Our green fee rates will be adjusted slightly to simplify transactions at the till (\$41.43 + GST = \$43.50, will now be \$41.59 + HST = \$47.00 for 18 holes walking), This will be reflected in our package rates.

Players who purchase 10 packs for green fees or carts must purchase all their packs by July 1st, or they will have to pay the new Harmonized Sales .

For the avid golfer our membership continues to be "Northern Ontario's Best Value in Championship Golf"

you will all stay warm and well this winter. To those who are of retirement age, I invite you to join our volunteer crew in the upcoming season. Thank you again to those who have already done so!

See You In the Spring

Peter Stos

Mr. Stos Green Thumb

It's November 23 and as I come into the shop to write this I have just watched a 3-some walk up #2 fairway. That seems to sum up this year weather wise, fairly well. The best golfing weather has been this fall after the course has been closed for the year. While that may not be entirely true, it is not so far from the truth. Certainly the spring did little to inspire many to shine the clubs and get out on the course and summer, well it seemed to wait till September to get here. With a bit of luck this El-Nino winter will bring warmer weather that will be more conducive to golf EARLY next spring.

This past year staff and volunteers at Huron Pines did an exceptionally good job keeping the course in great shape. I am always amazed not only that they continue to do an excellent job in all sorts of weather but maintain a high level of enthusiasm as well. Congratulations to all on a job well done!

We are fortunate enough at Huron Pines to have good neighbours at Cameco, who have been known to help us out in many respects, this year they helped us diagnose some pump problems and helped fabricate a set of rollers for the greens. Many thanks to Chris Astles and the good people at Cameco for their help again this year.

One of the most significant things to happen this year in the turf maintenance industry is the passing of the Ontario Cosmetic Pesticide Ban on April 22. Upon implementation of the ban, golf courses are required to register for IPM (Integrated Pest Management) accreditation, and have an accredited IPM agent in place to implement the IPM strategy in order to be exempt from the ban and continue to use pesticides. To date all necessary steps have been taken in order to keep us on line with this significant change in regulation.

As this year draws to a close, I hope

HURON PINES GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

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Best Value in Championship Golf



Board of Directors 2010

President: Wayne Berthelot

Vice President: Gerard Rainville

Treasurer Mark Deverell

Course: Tom St Jules

Club House: Dave Hubbert

Volunteers Dick Lachapelle

Cameco Representative: Chris Astles

Town Blind River Representatives: Vyrn Peterson

Ken Kennedy:

Secretary Nancy Clarke

Manager

Another season is over, and from my perspective July, Aug & half of Sept were successful, however as we all know April and May were disastrous.

I would like to thank Peter Stos and his crew for their dedicated work to bring Huron Pines back on track after such a harsh winter. I would also like to thank Judy Simms PJ Catering and staff for their continued good food, and service.. RJ and pro shop staff for all their hard work and support.

I would like to thank the Board of Directors and Staff for their continued support and hard work that goes unnoticed by many.



A very special thanks to all members and non members who make Huron Pines a place of enjoyment to work, and a place to play.

A huge thanks to our Partners in Golf, Cameco, AJ Bus Lines, Berthelot Insurance, Milltown Motors, IDA, and Town of Blind River.

I look forward to our continued working relationship for the 2010 Season.

Yes, this will be my fifth year as manager, and the challenges never stop coming. This year

will be very challenging because of our Financial Commitments, our slumping economy, our decrease in memberships, and mother nature. I am very confident with our dedicated and positive Staff, our dedi-

cated and positive members, we will achieve excellent service and good golfing to everyone who visits Huron Pines.

Once again I look forward to working with you all and please remember that I have an open door policy so if you have concerns or suggestions please bring them to my attention or to any Board Member.

Trevor Kerr-Taylor



A thing of Beauty