



## IT'S SPRING!

**... (almost) and we're sure that there is superb golf weather just around the corner! Honestly, we really believe that. Trust us. So with that in mind, here is everything you need to know about the coming season.**

**Welcome to our New Members**

Laura McGregor  
Laura Quillici  
Rita Arya

### New Online Booking System!

Book online up to 7 days in advance.

Your user name is your email address, the default password is

**##Bigc.online\$\$.**

Please change your password after your initial login.

You can type this URL into your browser to get the BIGC booking site:

**<http://foreupsoftware.com/index.php/booking/index/19643#welcome>**

### Update from the President Alan Morse

LIKE MANY GOLF COURSES, we have had significant challenges in the past couple of years. One has been the loss of our restaurant due to the labour and accommodation shortage on the island.

After an extensive search, we've been unable to find anyone willing or able to run a kitchen operation at the golf club. We are, however, making arrangements to have food and drinks available seven days a week throughout the season. This will be a 'grab and go' service for food, and a bar service for drinks, operated by the Pro Shop staff.

All tournaments and events will continue to be catered by the island's restaurants and caterers.

Our second major challenge has been our lease negotiation. We believe we now have an agreement that works well for all parties, and will ensure a financially-viable long term future for the club.

We expect that the details will be announced in the coming weeks as arrangements are concluded.

I want to thank all of the volunteers who work tirelessly for the betterment of our Golf Course, you make the Golf Course a "True Gem".

**See you on the course,**

Alan Morse

2018

Up to Par Newsletter

Send submissions/ feedback to

Terence McKeown, editor

Send photos to Pat Adams, design/production



## Message from Bruce Russell

### Spencer Grundy



SOME LEAVE THEIR MARK at their place of employment, and their community more than others and in this respect, Spencer is second-to-none. As our first superintendent, he took over where Russ Olson left off after the completion of construction of our community course.

Spencer's magic with grass (the legal type) was unequalled as to growing, maintaining and even playing on it, for he certainly showed all our low-handicappers the difference between playing and fooling around.

While he left our employ a few years ago, he continued to assist Frank Griffiths both with his hands-on shifts on the mowers and by way of his ongoing, most valuable mentoring. We will certainly miss Spencer, Casey, Payton and Mia.

We can't argue, the move will better serve the family needs for employment and school. They will reside in West Vancouver, so we can be sure we have not seen the last of them as they are keen to visit and continue to play our course which is more spectacular thanks to the efforts of Spencer. We wish them well.

### Bowen Island Fundraiser (BAF)

AS WE RAPIDLY APPROACH another playing season, plans are underway for the 2018 BAF, on September 15th.

One need only play the course on receipt of this spring issue of our newsletter to realize, that in spite of our financial operating challenges, the course continues to be maintained to a standard second-to-none which is only possible due to the success of our BAF, for which the hard-working committee deserves a great deal of credit.

Thanks to the entrants, commercial joint hole sponsors, prize donors and Patrons, we are able to turn an otherwise operating loss into a profit.

### How Tweet it is

I AM PLEASED TO ADVISE this novel, nominal fundraising program while somewhat dormant, is still alive.

We had three new plaque donations (\$100) in January one of which was in memory of Cody's father, Dave White.

If anyone wishes to have a small memorial plaque on one of our birdhouse yardage markers, please contact Bruce at [brucer@gulfpacific.ca](mailto:brucer@gulfpacific.ca).

### Blast Taxi 604-250-TAXI (8294)

Another reminder - the course and community in general desperately need a land taxi so we encourage all members to use it as often as possible, whether due to being at the 19th hole too long... or otherwise. Please encourage your friends and neighbours to patronize it as well, for if we don't collectively use it we will lose it.





## RECENT EVENTS

### Our Winter Challenges



Braving the elements at the Burn Barrel Classic:  
Barry Adams, Peter Clarke, Kathy Clarke

FOR THOSE WHO BELIEVE golf can't be played from October to April, we beg to differ. This year's winter tournaments, the **Burn Barrel Classic** in November and the **Snowman Scramble** February 3rd, were very well attended and a whole lot of fun. We golfed in a light snow shower at the **Burn Barrel**; and in the midst of a week of monsoon weather, the sun came out just long enough for the **Snowman Scramble**.

The winning teams are:

**Burn Barrel Classic** (two-person scramble) -

Kathy Clarke and Peter Clarke;

**Snowman Scramble** -

Barb Rendell, Bob Miller, Laura McGregor, and Maurice McGregor.

Frank Patt's hearty chili lunches were delicious as always.

### Holes in One - "AE" (Aces Elsewhere) edition



*Bruce Russell, in his inimitable fashion, has coined this new feature  
Aces Elsewhere (AE).*

Since our last newsletter, two of our members have distinguished themselves and us by scoring aces at other courses:

**Peter Davidson**  
in Los Cabos;  
**Michael Cornelissen**  
in Palm Desert

Our newest (and possibly only) club rule states that anyone mentioned in our *Aces Elsewhere* section must buy all the patrons a drink when next in our clubhouse.

Congratulations Peter and Michael!

(Please note:  
Our clubhouse hole-in-one plaque is reserved for HiO's on our course only.)

### Twitter this. . .

-----Original Message-----

From: Spencer Grundy

Subject: Photo from Twitter

Check this out on twitter. Top 64 logos in Canada going up against each other for best logo in Canada.

I know we are good, but really, who did Bruce know to get in this prestigious group?

Love it





## COMING EVENTS



Polish up those clubs for the Island Masters!

### Island Masters Saturday, April 7

**Our first event of the season is a big one:**

The Island Masters, held every year on the same weekend as that other Masters, a minor American golf tournament some of you may have heard of.

Your score is combined with the same day's score by one of the Masters players.

We create this virtual partnership by the most scientific method available to us: you pick the name out of a hat, or a reasonable facsimile of a hat.

Play badly and win!

Play well and lose!

What could be more fun?

Contact the Pro Shop or look at our website for details.

### Monthly Mixed Scramble Socials

**Mark your calendars for this year's Mixed Scramble events, being held on Fridays again: May 11, June 15, July 13, August 10 and September 7.**

Tee off is 3:50pm (arriving by 3:30pm to find your team). Golf is followed by dinner (optional) where we get to continue to enjoy each other's company.

The Mixed Scramble is a chance to get to know and play with different people in our golf community each month. It is a social event, not a competitive one (i.e. no prizes).

We put together foursomes, two men and two women when possible. Each player hits off the tee; the best drive is chosen, and everyone plays from that spot except the person whose drive is used. The foursome continues this way until the green, where everyone putts.

Singles and couples are welcome but couples do not play together, and beginners and low-handicappers play together to balance the teams.

Contact **Lisa Avery** ([lisa.avery.slp@gmail.com](mailto:lisa.avery.slp@gmail.com)) or **Terry McKeown** ([tmckeown@shaw.ca](mailto:tmckeown@shaw.ca)) if you wish to be on the email list to receive announcements to sign up.

If you participated last year, you will be included in this year's mailing.

### Cody's Golf Camps

Cody will be running his wildly popular kids camps for two age groups : Ages 8+ and 5-7.

**Ages 8+:**

**When:** July 2nd - 5th and/or August 13th - 16th

**Time:** 2pm - 6pm

**Cost:** \$225

**Ages 5-7:**

**When:** July 23rd - 26th and/or August 13th - 16th

**Time:** 2pm - 5pm

**Cost:** \$180





**BIGC encourages golf for women. Join either or both of these groups! Play golf. Make friends. Have fun.**

## BIGC Women’s League

THE WOMEN’S LEAGUE STARTS with our opening day on **Thursday, April 12** (with a four-person team fun game) and ends on **September 27** with a scramble and luncheon party.

Our league emphasizes golf is for every one of every level. We try to mix up our members so high and low handicappers play together and learn from and support each other.

We play every **Thursday morning** with a shotgun start at 9:00am and a different game format that is fun and friendly and finish with some socializing on the Clubhouse deck.

Check out our on-line Fixture Book (on BICG website under “Tournaments and Events”). It is full of useful information such as our calendar of events, game descriptions and much more. And come to our coffee party on April 5 to meet fellow golfers, sign up for intra-club and inter-club match play, and the Gleneagles challenge, meet the club executive, and learn about the clinics for women that will be offered this year by our pro, Cody.

For 2018, **Lisa Avery** is Captain ([lisa.avery.slp@gmail.com](mailto:lisa.avery.slp@gmail.com)) and **Barb Rendell** is Vice-Captain ([rgmiller1@shaw.ca](mailto:rgmiller1@shaw.ca)).



## JUST FORE LAUGHS



JUST FORE LAUGHS LADIES’ GOLF is an informal, non-competitive group that emphasizes fun and friendship over style and score-keeping. We welcome all Bowen ladies, with their families and friends, whether total beginners or fairway stars.

We’ll launch our **4th season in May** with a coffee party, where we’ll discuss the 2018 schedule.

As in past years, the Just fore Laughs group will meet on **Tuesday mornings** from June through August.

So, mark your calendars now ... and think about inviting “newbies” to join us.

This will be a banner year for our group, thanks to a new trio of volunteer organizers: Joanne Gassman, Liz Hammerberg and Sylvia Boss.

These are talented Wonder-Women in every aspect of their lives except golf, where their skills range from “OK to middling” – like most of us.

That’s the big draw for JFL: there’s no experience required to participate and players can progress at their own pace – or not – in a friendly, pressure-free setting.

We’ll look forward to resuming our apres-golf lunches on the sunny Clubhouse deck. (Bringing your own bag lunch is so last year!)

Contact **Gayle Stevenson** ([gaylestevenson@shaw.ca](mailto:gaylestevenson@shaw.ca)) if you or a friend wish to be added to our contact list. Then watch for announcements about our kick-off meeting and subsequent arrangements.



by **Larry Oliver**

## Oliver's rules

### Local Rules for Winter and Spring Conditions

**In addition to the regular rules of golf, courses are allowed to make local rules that are relevant to their own course situation – this article clarifies two of the most common at this time of the year.**

Even though the Bowen course is usually in excellent condition this is the time of the year we may want to have the “committee” declare a couple of local rules to make play a bit easier. The Committee will make this decision depending on the course conditions.

#### Winter rules / Preferred lies

If the committee declares that winter rules / preferred lies are in place they also need to specify the distance the player will be allowed to move the ball and make the improvement. Some Committees will stipulate the ball is to be placed within six inches, others a score card-length or perhaps even one club-length – generally, the

worse the conditions, the bigger the distance.

Winter rules are only allowed on closely mown area (cut to fairway height or less) not in the rough or hazards.

Key Points to remember relative to Preferred Lies:

- Mark the position of your ball
- Lift and clean your ball
- Place your ball within the stipulated area, no nearer the hole
- The ball is in play when placed and cannot be lifted again

#### Embedded Ball

Under the rules there is always free relief for a ball embedded in its own pitch mark in any closely mown area (fairway). Without penalty, the ball may be lifted cleaned and dropped as near as possible to where it lay but not nearer the hole.

When course conditions are very wet such as in spring or heavy rain periods a Local Rule may be introduced that provides relief anywhere through the green meaning you would get relief from an imbedded ball in the rough as well as in the fairway.

### Course Condition and Etiquette

#### Check In, please, everyone, always

It's very important to check in at the pro shop before your round. Whether you're a member or not, the pro shop wants everyone to check in before heading to the first tee.

#### Pace of Play

Pace of play: Please keep up with the group in front of you. And let the pro shop know if there are problems on the course.

#### Divots

Please repair your divots, either by replacing them, or filling with our sand and seed mix. See below to learn how to do it properly.

Visit any of the following sites for a recap of the divot and pitch mark repair instructions :

<http://www.golfchannel.com/media/golf-fix-how-repair-divot>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TpEm5Z9smIo>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f-ZzT8yMnmg>

### DEFIBRILLATOR

**Anyone wishing to take the AED/Life Saving Course**

**(3 hour course @ \$52/ person) should contact Bruce Russell**

**(brucer@gulfpacific.ca). The AED is located in the pro shop**