



THE DRIVER



Newsletter of the Madrona Links Men's Club

January 2018

Men's Club News

Men's Club Tournaments and January Events

THREE CLUBS AND A PUTTER

JANUARY 13, 2018

HAPPY NEW YEAR !

That's right it's now 2018. If you haven't already renewed your Men's Club Membership, now is a good time. You can get the membership application at the Madrona Links website (www.madronalinks.com), or get a copy at the desk in the Pro Shop. You'll have to be a paid-up member to play in the tournament, so make sure you renew before January 13.

THREE CLUBS AND A PUTTER

This is played from the white tees, and as the name says, you are limited in your club selection in this tournament. Choose any three clubs and use them throughout the round. Surprisingly, many players have really good rounds in this tournament. Maybe it's the fact that there are fewer decisions to be made when it comes to club selection, maybe it's the fact that we know the round won't be posted to our handicap scores. To add to the novelty of the tournament, the scoring is a modified Stableford scoring.

Stableford scoring is a points system based on your performance on each hole. The point values are 1 point for a bogey, 2 for a par, and 3 for a birdie. A hole in one is worth 25 points. All points earned are added to your handicap. This is a tournament that allows high handicappers to have a great chance to win. If you are a 28 handicap, a player with a 16 handicap must make four pars just to make up for your handicap. If you get a bogey or two, it puts you that much more in the lead.

Madrona Links Men's Club

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DECEMBER CONGRATULATIONS

In spite of the fact that it was December, several players had noteworthy moments:

Bob Elsdon shot a 76 from the white tees, that is LESS THAN his age!

David Allen and Bob Carey both had aces on number 12. David's ace was during the Ball Buster tournament. Does that merit extra cheers?

PUTTING ACCURACY

Time and again we have been told of the importance of a making our putting stroke go straight back and straight through. We're also told that the putter face being square to our line of putt is important. Did you ever wonder just how important those things are? Some simple trigonometry can give some insight. (Is there such a thing as simple trigonometry?)

Let's look at a twenty foot putt, and let's assume the green is perfectly flat and level. Ideally, that straight back/straight through putt with the face squared up to the line goes into the center of the hole. What happens if something goes wrong?

If the stroke or the face of the club is one degree wrong, the math involved says you will miss by a fraction over four inches! If you are off by six degrees you will miss by almost two feet. That should let you know that when you DO make that 20 foot putt you have accomplished a significant feat.

When you add in the fact that almost all putts have some break, and NO green is perfectly flat, making that 20-footer looks like an almost superhuman accomplishment,

Next time you miss that 20 foot putt by 4 inches, tell yourself that you were within 1 degree of perfection.

JANUARY 13

3-CLUBS AND A PUTTER

WHITE TEES

FEBRUARY 17

SCREWDRIVER OPEN

(INVITATIONAL)

4-MAN SCRAMBLE

BLUE TEES

MARCH 17

2-MAN CHAPMAN

7-STROKE DIFFERENTIAL

WHITE TEES