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Love

Golf

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Can you find
 the hidden
 homonyms?



COME JOIN OUR COURSE SUPERINTENDENT Q&A!

MEMBER:

QUESTION?

CHRIS DIETER:

ANSWER.



LOOKING FOR AN ANSWER ABOUT THE COURSE?
 ASK THE EXPERT ANYTHING

WHEN: Wednesday, February 12th
 START TIME: 6 P.M.

WHERE: Rock Harbor Golf Course
 END TIME: 8 P.M.

To subscribe or unsubscribe to this free newsletter send an e-mail to therock@rockharborgolf.com

Rock Harbor News

VOLUME 21 ISSUE 2

FEBRUARY 2025

Curt's Corner

Curt Corey,
 General Manager & Pro:

I'm sure everyone, including myself, is ready to get rid of all the snow, ice and cold temps and ready to see some green fairways.

The new 2025 Member Schedule is now available in the Pro Shop. You will notice all of the dates for these tournaments posted. You will also see we have a new tournament planned in August called "Beat The Staff". This will be a really fun outing for all members. Pick your best foursome and see if you can beat members of the Proshop Staff team.

Please plan on attending the *Member Social* on February 12 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Our Greens Superintendent, Chris Dieter, will be on hand for a "Question and Answer" session from the Members! Chris has been doing a fantastic job in keeping **Rock Harbor Golf Course** a beautiful place to play.

We will be having a *Ladies Social Night* on March 5th and a *New Member Orientation* meeting on March 12th. The *League Draw* will be held on March 26th and our first golf tournament of the year, the *Member Opening Day*, will be held on April 6th. Please try to attend all these events if you can.

This would be a great time of the year to stop by the Pro Shop and look at the great selection of new grips for those clubs. Installation is free for all grips. For those looking to improve their golf game (Putting, Chipping or Full Swing) stop by my office and let's schedule those lessons!

We are having a "**Big Clearance Sale**" on old and new model golf clubs as well as most of the clothing. Stop by the Pro Shop and take a look!

I'm looking forward to a great 2025 season at **Rock Harbor Golf Course!**

Fresh From The Grill

Beau Rudiger,
RH Grill Manager:

2024 is in the rear-view mirror, it wasn't bad, but hopefully 2025 is a better year. We've been blanketed with snow and extreme temperatures so far in 2025, hopefully this lets up shortly.

I've added a new salad and dressing so far, I have it on the specials sheet featuring a homemade Pecan Maple dressing. The salad consists of: craisins, feta cheese, pecans, apple

and shaved parmesan, to mention a few of the items. You can order a half or full size and of course add chicken. I'm working on a few more items for the menu for February and March.

I am also working on a Valentine's menu, with it falling on a Friday this year. We will probably do the Valentine's menu on Friday the 14th and Saturday the 15th this year. I'll have it posted soon.

So, hopefully the warm or at least seasonal temperatures



will prevail, and we can get back to playing a little more golf soon. Pizza and Wings will follow the Friday and Sunday routine until the 14th (when we do Valentines) and will resume the following Friday.

Please Park on the Path

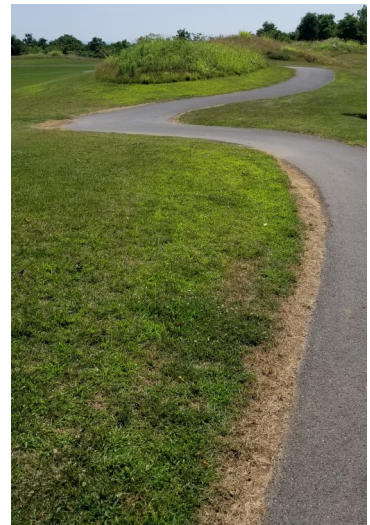
George Waters, senior manager, Green Section Education:
Fight the urge to pull off the path when parking near tees and greens. The maintenance team and your fellow golfers will thank you for it.

We've probably all done it – driven our golf cart up to a green or tee, pulled to the side of the path and parked with a couple of tires on the grass. It's a natural impulse. When you stop driving almost any other vehicle you pull over for safety and try to keep the roadway clear. On the golf course, you want other golfers or maintenance vehicles to get by. Unfortunately, our tendency to pull over onto the grass creates



bad lies and a bunch of repair work for the maintenance team. It's counterintuitive, but we should actually park with all four tires on the path, even if it seems like we're blocking the way. Otherwise, some familiar problems are sure to develop.

In areas where a lot of carts park, it doesn't take many people pulling over onto the grass to cause damage. What starts as a small bare spot, see right, will keep growing with more traffic. The bigger the bare patch gets, the more it looks like a great place to park and the worse it becomes. The soil gets compacted and settles, and the area may hold water after rain or irrigation – creating a puddle for carts to splash through as they pull over. The maintenance team can fix these damaged areas, but that takes up a lot of time they don't have to spare.



Worn cart path edges



Boulder 18 cart traffic

Bare spots along paths are more than just a problem for the maintenance team, they also create bad lies that can make a mess of your scorecard. It's no fun trying to hit a delicate chip onto the green from a bare dirt lie near a cart path. The Rules of Golf only allow for relief from these areas if they're marked or otherwise defined as ground under repair, or the path directly interferes with your stance or swing. That means there's a decent chance you're playing from the dirt if you're unlucky enough to end up there.

Parking with all four tires on the path, especially near tees and greens, is the only way to prevent this issue. Fight the urge to pull onto the grass! Chances are, nobody will need to go around you while you're parked on the path. If someone does, it's better that they pass once on the grass instead of you parking there every single time. Adding curbs or widening paths can help prevent damage, but those adjustments cost money and they don't always solve the parking problem. **Changing our behavior is definitely the best fix.**

