

# The Country Club of the Crystal Coast

*...where friends connect*

By Tom Tempel

This article is all about learning golf skills at the CCCC and information on the Golf and Greens Committee activities. The other day I was going to the clubhouse and observed a group of kids in a convoy of golf carts heading for the first tee. They were led by an adult, and Phil Panzarella was nearby. I stopped to ask Phil about the kids and heard a wonderful story. These golfers are all Carteret County middle school children who are on school golf teams. This program has been going on for the past 15 years on our golf course with Phil Panzarella as a volunteer coordinator and other volunteer golf instructors. The CCCC gives the children an opportunity to play golf after school at no expense. They practice and learn and also compete in golf matches with other middle schools. They have an annual awards banquet for teams and team members and to thank all the volunteers. Additionally, donated clubs, golf balls and equipment are provided for those in need. Over the years thousands of children have participated in this program. Some county high schools have golf teams that practice and compete at other golf clubs in our county. The middle school program gets the kids started on the right track in playing golf. Phil, thank you for your volunteer efforts to support this important program.

Another great program at the CCCC for members' children, grandchildren and guests ages 10 to 15 is the Summer Junior Program. Children can be dropped off at the club between 11:45 a.m. and noon and picked up at 7 p.m. During that time they enjoy supervised open swimming; an included lunch; a coached tennis clinic, followed by playing tennis; a coached golf clinic, followed by playing golf; and all around fun. This occurs on certain days in June, July and August. The cost is \$50 per day for seven hours of fun. You can also sign up for what you would like your children to do on a weekly basis. Call the pro shop at 726-1034 ext. 10 to make arrangements. There is nothing more important for the future of golf and tennis than teaching children at an early age the skills and value of golf and tennis.

The kids are well taken care of, but what about us big kids who desire to learn and improve golf skills to enjoy with family and friends? First, the club has a putting green and

chipping area from Astroturf chipping pad to green, which are free for practice by members anytime and for guests with a tee time. There is also a driving range, open after 3 p.m. every day, and a pro shop where balls may be purchased by members and playing guests for use on the range. There is one free golf clinic per month for members, conducted by Chip Chamberlin, our PGA pro and general manager. Private golf lessons are available from Chip and Phil Panzarella. Call the pro shop for information and fees and then call Chip or Phil to schedule lessons.

Now that we are well instructed in golf and have practiced to perfect our game, what about our golf course overlooking Bogue Sound? It is in such good condition because of a very active Golf and Greens Committee and Andy Ipock, the golf course superintendent. The Golf and Greens Committee is chaired by Board Director Glenn Mills and members include Bonnie Ferneau, Susan Griffin, Rick Holt, Susan Thomas, Buddy Thomas, Jim Wagner, Jason Wordsworth, Andy Ipock and Chip Chamberlin. Tom Tempel and Bill Knecht are ex-officio members. The committee recommends improvements to the golf course and golf programs; plans the golf course capital improvement budget; advises on the golf calendar, tournaments and special events; develops a vision for the future; has a Handicap Committee; and promotes golf with the CCCC LGA and MGA. Andy Ipock and his workers do the golf course maintenance and improvements.

There are golf tournaments and programs in every month of the year, with the most being held April-October. We have over 37 golf tournaments and special events per year, with something for everyone. The big Member Guest Tournament is to be held May 29, 30, 31 and June 1. Chip is working on a Golf League to be held on late afternoons later in the year; details will be reported when they are finalized.

Those of you who own second homes in the area that are rented out in the summer may participate in a special membership program. If you join as a full member, anyone renting your home may play golf and participate in full club activities during their vacation. This is a very nice incentive for renters. For more information on golf activities and tournaments, check with the pro shop, Glenn Mills or members of his committee, or check our website at [crystalcoastcc.com](http://crystalcoastcc.com).

Currently a stormwater project with the town of Pine Knoll Shores is going on, especially near holes 12 and 17, to help minimize flooding in town areas. It will be complete as this goes to press and will prevent serious flooding that has been a problem in the past.

Come to the Country Club of the Crystal Coast where friends connect and enjoy the best in golf, tennis, swimming, dining and social activities right here in Pine Knoll Shores where real friendships are made and sustained.

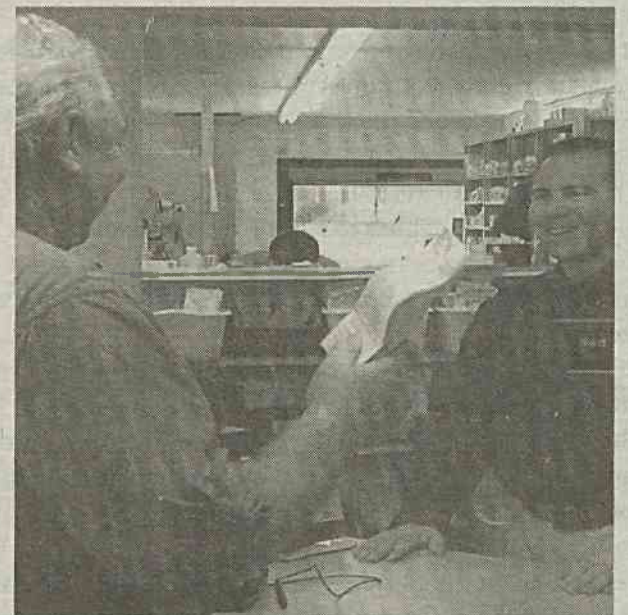
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