Crystal Coast Country Club

...where friends connect

By Jim Hale

The Superintendent's Revenge Golf Tournament was a rousing success with 56 players engaged in a round of golf like they had never experienced before. Andy Ipock, our course superintendent extraordinaire, and his staff set the course up with surprises on every hole to challenge golfing skills and players' sense of humor. Some of the challenges included: a toilet seat around the hole that had to be putted through to hole out, six flags on one green so players weren't sure which one to play to, a large piece of equipment in front of a green to hit over, hitting your tee shot out of a fairway bunker, playing a complete hole with only a putter, and men could play the par 3 8th hole at 240 yards or from the women's tee if they put on a long lady's frock for the tee shot (see picture). It was lots of fun, and all the teams had a great time. The winning team was Jeff Frisby, Jim Holloway, Joe Garlock and Randy Hardee. Second place went to Rick Holt, Greg Pate, Mike King and Glenn Mills. David Lutrell, Doug Watkins, Roy Faulkenberry and Will Barnett were the members of the third place team, and fourth place went to the team of James Llewellyn, Danny Torbush, John Richards and Jim Hale. After play, all enjoyed a wonderful lunch, and prizes were awarded. Andy was disappointed by how low the winning score was and vows to make this year's tournament even more challenging. Bring it on!



From left, James Llewellyn, John Richards, Jim Hale and Danny Torbush improving their chances on the 8th hole.

December is a big celebration month, and there were several holiday events at the Crystal Coast Country Club. The club Christmas party was held on Saturday, December 18. The menu included shrimp cocktail shooters, ham and Swiss cheese sliders, and caprese skewers for hors d'oeuvres. After salads, the main course was a surf and turf (filet and seared scallops) with garlic butter sauce. After dinner, there was dancing with the I-42 Band. On Sunday, the 19th, there was a brunch with Santa, with Jolly Saint Nick making his appearance at noon. This was a full brunch menu, including omelets, pancakes, eggs Benedict, mahi with lemon dill sauce and sundried tomato-basil chicken. Also included were bacon, sausage, grits, home fries and an assortment of other sides.

New Year's Eve was a big celebration with music for dancing provided by The Nigel Experience. Chef Scott served up appetizers and a beautiful pan-seared filet with wild mushroom Bordelaise. The sides were wonderful, and the dessert was a mini chocolate cake with ganache, crème Anglaise and raspberry caviar. Of course, there was a Champagne toast.

The tennis center hosted two events in December. On December 11, there was a Holiday Challenge Pickleball Social, starting at 9 a.m. Each player participated in five mixed doubles rounds of play. The scores of each player were added to determine a high score men's and high score women's winner. John Tilyard took the men's title, and Mariana Goldstein had the women's high score. After play, prizes were awarded and lunch was served in the Hearth Room at the club, paid for by the pickleball association. On Friday, the 17th, the tennis association held a social. There was social play from 4 to 6 p.m., and then association members enjoyed Burger Night at the club, paid for by the association. The tennis center is now stocked up with a nice selection of equipment and apparel for tennis and pickleball play.

The club's Board of Directors approved several improvements to the golf course, new equipment for use at the tennis facility, new tools for food and beverage service and improvements to the pool area. 2021 was a good year at the Crystal Coast Country Club, and the prospects for 2022 are even brighter.

Happy New Year—see you at the club.



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