

November 5, 2019

This has been the year of two seasons—cold and wet or hot and dry. The normal 4 seasons eluded us here in southern Illinois. And NOW, we are faced with cold way before the time when we should have to deal with it.

We are now offering Memberships for the 2020 golf season. Prices will remain the same as they have in previous years with substantial savings for early payment. There are two windows for the early payment plan with Nov. 30 being the biggest savings followed with a Dec. 31 option. If you choose to pay monthly dues instead of the early payment option, that is also available.

Many of you enjoyed the new reciprocal that we had in place with Keller's Crossing and Jackson Country Club. We have been able to confirm that we will continue that relationship with Keller's Crossing for the 2020 season. Jackson Country Club has not yet confirmed their participation.

The Player's Pass also will be available with an early payment option. If the Player's Pass is purchased prior to Dec. 31, the cost will remain at \$150. Player's Passes purchased after the beginning of the year will be at the \$175 rate. This remains an affordable option for the player that chooses this instead of Membership.

We have an exciting announcement for the winter. COGC Assistant Golf Professional, Bobby Diehl, will be bringing his golf simulator to COGC for the winter. This is very sophisticated equipment and will give you an opportunity to do many different things. The simulator will be set up in the pro shop area. Options include hitting balls and learning accurate numbers for you—carry, spin, direction, etc.. This is accomplished using the launch monitor and allows you to become a better player before next season. Players will also be able to play thousands of golf courses from around the world. You will be able to schedule a tee time for your group to play 9 or 18, rain, snow, or shine. COGC Members will receive a discount when booking the simulator or a round of golf. How much fun to play Augusta, St. Andrews, and many more courses you have dreamed about! Other huge benefits to having the simulator here are the ability to fit clubs using the information from the launch monitor as well as taking lessons. Check with us for more info and continue to play golf all winter.

We are working on ways to operate more efficiently while still providing superior service to our members and guests. Our operating cost goes up each year, yet to be competitive in our market, we must hold our prices at current levels. Minimum wage will go up several times in the next few months putting ourselves, as well as our fellow golf course operators, in a very tough position. As in the past, we will continue to do the best we can with what we have. I played several Midwest golf courses during the summer and many were in poor condition. We had conditions that were very difficult to combat for much of the year. Jim Taylor, along with help from Shannon Watson and our entire maintenance staff, did a good job keeping our course in very playable condition. As always, my staff and myself, thank you for supporting us and wish you all a safe, and healthy holiday season. If we can be of any assistance during the next few months, please let us know. The food service and pro shop will be open during the winter with restricted hours. Follow us on Facebook and our website for other updates from COGC.

Thank you all,

Steve Heckel & Staff