



# FAIRWAY NEWS

Salmon Run Golf Course Newsletter

November 2020

## Turkey Days Coming

October was a beautiful month for golfing. With only a few days of rain plus a few days of frost delays, the course stayed in great shape. The aeration healed quickly and play has been steady. Our first frost delay was October 26th and a few more days ensued until the end of the month. We're sure to have more so if you have an early tee time and don't want to wait at the course, give us a call to check conditions. With the time change on the morning of November 1st we will see earlier tee times available again.

Our Monday delay start will continue (and now it's even light!) This has been a great time for maintenance to get some critical projects completed without competing for the green or fairway. We are grateful for the patience of our early morning golfers.

Did you get your handicap letter this month? If so you would see Gary was honored as the November Superintendent of the Month by the Oregon Golf Course Superintendent Association and the OGA. He was nominated and asked to fill out the questionnaire so thank you to everyone who put his name forward. He continues to meet the challenges of the course and find the best way to get projects completed with this staff.

Some of those challenges have included a resurgence of elk on the course. We're still trying to determine timing for their entry so have cameras out there trying to capture that information. We have a night watchman who drives the course hoping to scare the elk as well. After the greenskeepers revenge (elk revenge tourney?!), and a skeleton crew on weekends, Gary fixed elk tracks across the greens for 3.5 hours. Not too many people noticed the damage since he spent the time fixing it but he was worn out and didn't get to golf that day!

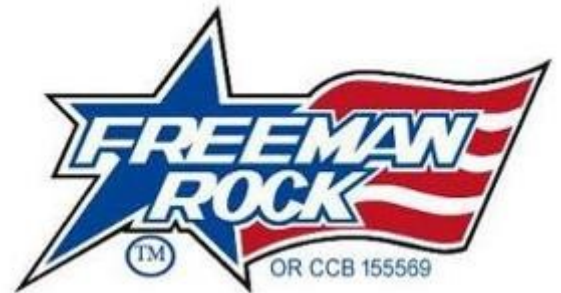
Our driving range has been closed a few days while they worked along the back of the range clearing. Professional tree cutters had to come in to get the big stuff so we're only able to use short irons until the net can be moved to the back after the debris is cleared up. We recaptured a lot of golf balls when the first clearing happened but with all the trees on the grounds, and large equipment due to come in, we don't want to lose the rest of the driving range balls. We're hoping the work is completed quickly but most of it is volunteer labor (and equipment) so we'll be patient. You can still go hit punch shots and short irons to warm up before your round. Get the balls in the clubhouse.

We irrigated through the majority of October and had a few more breaks on lines. Thanks to the golfers who called in the major break on #6 that had a river running through it. We were able to open it and get it patched up quickly. Our lines are always "charged" as we need to water to roll out elk tracks so it's possible to see breaks like this even during the winter months.

As we begin our month of thankfulness, we would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who are on our staff—we hope you will join us in thanking them too. Tim, John M., John V., Dean, Kraig, Jeff, Jennifer, Mike, Matthew, Nathan, Mia, George, Wendy, David, Morgan all help to make our lives easier. We'd also like to say thank you to all the golfers, while we may not always have the right answers, or have the wanted permissions, our mission at Salmon Run has always been the same—provide an incredible golfing experience with friendly service—and failure is never an option. Appreciatively .... Gary & Val

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October Frost delay



## DEALS!!

**November DEALS—What's the catch? Must mention newsletter!**

**Thankful Thursday** —Get \$10 off regular rate green fees.

**Walk the Turkey** —November 27-30—Any day, all day walking rate \$10 (as many holes as you want to do)

**Keep track of us on Instagram & Facebook for more specials.**

### OGA-OGCSA Superintendent Spotlight – November 2020

In this month's Superintendent Spotlight we feature **Gary Early** who's worked at **Salmon Run Golf Course** for the last 4.5 years.



#### Describe your facility in 10 words or less:

Challenging short course cut through a forest with a stream and no houses.

#### What is a little-known fact / fun fact about your facility?

During certain times of the year, Salmon are seen actively spawning in the stream that runs through the course.

#### What's your favorite hole at your facility? Hole 15

#### Have you had a hole-in-one? When and where?

Salmon Run, #4 (1999); Kenai Golf Course, #10, (2017)

#### Do you have a superintendent dog?

Yes – Maddie (but she is really my wife's dog). Maddie is an 8.5 year-old Patterdale Terrier. She's our gopher-getter.

#### What's your favorite tool in your tool box? A ball mark fixer

#### On your last day, what is your meal of choice?

Potato Salad & Patty Melt

#### What led you down the path of becoming a superintendent?

I've always loved golf – it's one of my passions. When our home course got in trouble, in disrepair, I wanted to resurrect it.

#### What would you invent right now to make your professional life easier?

A spray that would make elk stay away – that they won't get used to.

#### Who is your mentor?

Brant Hathorn, Bandon Crossings– he's always there when I have questions.

#### What is one piece of advice you would give to someone wanting to become a superintendent?

Don't expect any days off.

See full article on the OGA or OGCSA website

## Upcoming Events

**November 6—Humane Society GALA—  
CANCELLED**

**Nov 18—SR Men's Club Turkey Shootout**

**Nov 25—Nathan's Wedding in Occasion Hall**

**Nov 26—Thanksgiving—CLOSED**

**December 24—Closed at 2 PM**

**December 25—CLOSED—Happy Holidays**

## Greenskeeper's Revenge for Katelyn's Cause

Thirteen teams congregated on October 24th to see what the greenskeepers had in store for challenges. The pin placements were nasty in a few spots, some obstacle ridden and downright puzzling in others (Hockey sticks?!) The elk helped out the challenges by leaving little (big) piles on several fairways the night before. In the end, we raised over \$2,000 for Katelyn's Cause, had a great time in the sunshine and enjoyed good food in the Occasion Hall to wrap up a slim year for Tournaments. Thanks to all those who participated and donated back to a great cause.

**1st place team:** Edward Jones—Brandon Hodges, Brent Hodges, Tamara Beckley, Suzette Draheim

**2nd place team:** Coast Auto—Larry Wallin, Keith Wallin, Dale Riley, Steve Poponi

**Long Drive:** Green Tees: David Booth; Gold Tees: Tracy Le Jeune

**KP's:** #2—Nathan Orman #4—Keith Wallin; #7—Larry Wallin; #13—Dave #15—Tamara Beckley



**REMINDER: ALL PUNCH  
CARDS, Member Bal-  
ance and Customer  
Credit MUST BE USED BY  
DECEMBER 31, 2020**

