



A SLICE OF RIVENDELL

2013

I hope you enjoyed a more “Canadian” winter this year. If you were in the south you may have enjoyed avoiding a more “Canadian” winter. As the days get longer thoughts turn to spring and the sound of metal on golf ball.

2012 was a year with a lot of changes taking place at Rivendell. I thank you for your patience last year as we got used to the new systems and procedures and ironed out the kinks. Let’s take a look at some of the changes and how they will affect 2013 at Rivendell.

GOLD TEES

The new rating for gold tees is proving to be popular with a segment of our golfers who find some of the white tee blocks more than challenging. Golf is about having fun with your game and if gold tees puts more fun in your game then that is what they are there for. It has been used by some of the ladies and by others who are looking for a change of pace for the day.



RECIPROCAL AGREEMENT

Our arrangement with Maple View will continue for 2013 and it seems to be a hit with both clubs. We have expanded the criteria by including junior golfers in the program. No charge will be applied to a Jr. golfer walking the course. Remember to make your tee times through the pro shop up to 5 days in advance. The ½ cart fee will be charged at Maple View at tee time. I would encourage those who have not tried this offer to make the effort this year.

MEMBERSHIPS

The three levels of membership at Rivendell have been well received among our golfers. We have expanded the opportunities to play for the Silver and Bronze levels for 2013. Please ensure you let the pro shop know what level of membership you would like to sign up for when you begin play so we may do the appropriate computer work. By carefully reading the terms of the various membership levels you can choose the one that fits your schedule. Green fees will apply for tee times outside those allowed by your membership. If you find you would like to change your mind on the membership level we can make arrangements on a prorated basis for the change.

The member cart package will continue unchanged this year. It seems to have worked out very well in its present form. A cart member will pay the upfront fee (150.00 plus tax) and then pay \$5 plus tax for ½ cart for 18 holes. We do not offer nine hole rates and you may or may not have another golfer in the cart with you who will pay for the other half of the cart.



ONLINE BOOKING

After getting off to a bit of a slow start with this, we became more accustomed to the system and completed the year with confidence in the Golf Now network. We hope to expand our use of the online tee sheet to provide a 24/7 information and booking program to all our golfers.



MEMBERS MEET AND GREET

The 2013 Meet and Greet is scheduled for the 12th of April at 7:00 pm. This is a good chance to get caught up on the news and lie about your winter game. As always there will be finger food and refreshments available.



FROM THE CORNER OFFICE

Missing from the first tee this year will be Clayton Simonnet, a long time member of Rivendell and a good friend to all who knew him. Even though he did not play a lot of golf in his last years, a month would not go by that he did not show up (usually on a Wednesday) to fill a bag with beer and give it away to his buddies on the course. Generous to a fault and always ready for a good time no matter where he found himself. We will miss Clayton at Rivendell.

Last fall Ted Lansdell succumbed to a stroke he suffered in the summer. Dad took up golf a bit late in life but both he and Mom loved the game and played up until the last few years. He was probably better known for his skill in repairing golf carts than for his skill with a golf club but that did not deter him from having fun at the course. Down the middle, three shots to the green on a par four and in the hole for a bogey or the odd par. That was his game.

Dad was a mechanic for over 40 years, a sportsman and a lover of fine antique cars, on his cremation urn he had the image of a golfer engraved in the granite. Of all the images he could have chosen, a golfer is the one he chose to accompany him on his journey. A thousand years from now when someone finds that urn they will not know that he was a proud Canadian veteran, could fix almost anything, caught softball for over twenty years, that he was a master marksman with a pistol, or drove 80 year old cars for fun. But they will know that he loved to golf.

I would like to thank the members of Rivendell for their support during this time when I was somewhat less than focused on the business at hand, and for the great sendoff they gave Dad last fall when the walls of the Lions Hall were bulging with the crowds that gathered to show their respect. I hope you enjoy the shade from his red maple tree (donated by the staff of Rivendell) just off the 18th fairway.

Although neither of the gentlemen above had been members of Rivendell for some years they are part of the fabric in the weave that is Rivendell and I am better for having known them both.

Jim

