



March 2017 Newsletter



February visitors . . .

When SSU golf coach Val Verhunce realized his men's and women's team couldn't practice at Foxtail because of wet conditions, he asked if he could bring them to Fairgrounds and we were happy to accommodate him and his players.

Fairgrounds 'home' to local schools

When the Sonoma State men's and women's golf teams were unable to practice at Foxtail because of rain and wet conditions in February, coach Val Verhunce asked if he might be able to bring his players – 17 of them – to our course.

We were happy to have the Seawolves use our facilities and they were most gracious in how they handled themselves during their visit, a pleasure to have them.

We also host Santa Rosa JC golf classes, taught by coaches Dave Herrington and Brad Muster, and often see members of the Bear Cub golf teams at the course. In addition, high school teams such as the ones from Piner, often come to hit balls or practice at Fairgrounds and we have been part of a "field day" for elementary schools.

The future of golf depends in large part on the number of youngsters who start playing the game and continue playing as they get older.

Want to improve your game in 2017?

Fairgrounds lead golf instructor Daniel Stewart is planning on offering clinics as well as group and individual instruction for players of all ages and abilities. Check our web site or ask about lessons and clinics in the Pro Shop.





He's back . . .

Longtime Fairgrounds Club member Javier Luna has been out of action as he recuperated from knee surgery. But he still comes out to cheer on fellow members and he expects to be ready for the club's first major, Match Play, with qualifying set for March 18.

Javier, right, shown enjoying some refreshment with club member Bill Clarke

Javier was down, but not out . . .

When Javier Luna had to hang up his clubs for a while during his recuperation from arthroscopic knee surgery, he had already circled his comeback on the calendar.

He has been out since October, "but I wanted to play in our first club major so that's what I'm planning on doing," said Javier, a 4-handicapper and a member of the club since the early 1980s. "I should be getting the green light soon."

Javier compares the Fairgrounds Club to "Cheers, where everybody knows your name," explaining "it's a small club, which has its pros and cons, but Fairgrounds is a special place because it's where I learned to play golf."

Javier was in his early 20s when he gave up playing and managing softball three or four times a week and became, as he puts it, "an all-out golf geek, playing with anyone I could and under any conditions."

The March 18 qualifier is used to determine who will play against whom in the Match Play competition and how golfers are seeded.

Javier is no stranger to winning club majors, having claimed the Match Play and Club Championship titles twice as well as prevailing in The Memorial. He was also Player of the Year in 2002 and 2010.

Defending club champs from 2016 are Jeff Sawyer (Match Play), Pat Knittel (The Memorial and also 2016 Player of the Year), Shawn Chase (Club Championship) and Dan Heitmeyer and Rob Robertson (Two-Person Tournament).



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