



March 2022 Newsletter



Fairgrounds Farewell . . .

We lost one of our very special regular golfers recently, **Ernie Leichter**. His friend and longtime playing partner **Gerald Petlock** shared some of his thoughts with us and we wanted to share them with you.

“Ernie Leichter, who had a great love of golf, recently passed on. He began playing at Fairgrounds Golf Course about 10 years ago. During these years he had struggles with both heart disease and prostate malignancy But this did not keep him from playing twice a week for many years .

“For the most part his symptoms were minor, but eventually he lost his strength. Even playing from an electric cart eventually became too much for him. And looking back it seems appropriate that the last time we played together, for the first time in my life I hit a hole-in-one.

Ernie was overjoyed with the experience. Ironically that was his last golf outing. He died peacefully in the hospital. When his family and friends paid their last respects at the graveside memorial service, it was my great pleasure to put the "hole-in-one ball "in the grave with the coffin before it was covered over. Ernie went to the great beyond accompanied by The Ball that has brought him such Joy. Shalom Ernie !”





That time of year . . .

We had cold weather in February, resulting in several early morning frost delays at our golf course. If you plan on coming out early and the temperatures are near freezing, call us at 707-284-3520 and we will let you know the situation, maybe save you a trip and you can then visit us when the frost is gone.

Thoughts about playing in the wind . . .

While it is difficult to play into the wind, you may find yourself wanting to swing harder to make up for the shorter distance the ball will travel. It may be better to “club up” instead of changing your swing. For full shots, use the same power and force as you normally would if the wind were not there. This leads to overall greater consistency.

If you hit the ball harder than normal, you will most likely be making slight adjustments to your body position and ball contact. This can result in the ball curving in ways you hadn’t planned. The power may also not be evenly distributed from backswing to follow through. Because you normally don’t swing this way, the results can be unpredictable.

Let the change in club power create the extra distance and flight for you. By keeping your swing consistent, you will maintain more control and be more likely to place the ball where you want it. This also applies to wind at your back when “clubbing down” where you don’t want to take power off the ball through your swing.

If you are hitting into the wind, the direction of the ball’s curve will be impacted more and be more likely to turn. For playing with the wind at your back, keeping it lower will allow for less movement.

To keep the ball lower, you may want to shift the weight towards your front foot and keep 70 % of your weight on the front foot.

