



As the 2023 Wenham Country Club golf season comes to an end, we look back on a fun and successful year!

In 2023 we saw our tournaments continue to grow in participation and saw many new members participating in events: we ran over forty member events during the 2023 season! Many traditions continued but it was fun to see some changes too. Overall, 2023 was a great year and we are looking to have an even better year for our 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary year (1899-2024).

This year we crowned new club champions in all three categories. Congratulations to:

***Men's Champion – Jerry Markham    Women's Champion – Martha Field    Senior Champion – Jeff Conley***

We are so fortunate and thankful to have the staff that we do. We receive many reviews, and “a friendly and helpful staff” is probably the most consistent of all the comments left.

### **Wenham Country Club Continues as North Shore's leader in junior golf and a top program in New England!**

Our Friday Morning Golf Clinics are considered to be the best junior golf program in the area, and our PGA Junior League program continues to gain popularity: through data and feedback provided by the PGA of America, Wenham Country Club's junior golf program is ranked #1 in New England and #23 in the country.

This season we hosted the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual North Shore Junior Golf Championship and had nearly 100 participants! Players came from all over the Boston area to compete. It was a great day of golf, and the event is turning into a nice local golf tradition.

### **Course Management**

Every year brings different challenges, and 2023 was no exception. This year the grounds team was at full staff, with our returning staff and many new additions. Unlike last year this year was a little soggy, which definitely impacted playing conditions. We strive to learn more each year from our successes and failures and bring improvements to the golf course. We tackled a lot of issues this year, but some of those issues can still be seen out on the golf course. The black spots that are still on some of the greens will be removed and replaced in the spring. Our tees are a constant struggle but as we continue to improve the surfaces and oversee they are getting better. With that said, we did accomplish a lot this year:

- Leveled and re-sodded tees 5, 7, and 13 and built a new forward tee on 1
- Performed tree work with our contractors and in-house team
- Expanded some of our cart paths and added new stone
- Aerated and verti-cut our tees twice, and did the greens several times including a late season deep tine
- Continued to update and repair our irrigation system with new controllers and heads
- Built a new turf nursery
- Started a campaign to add and repair bunkers and refresh sand

**Planned course improvements for 2024 will include:**

- Prune and remove trees on the 13<sup>th</sup> tee
- Add irrigation on the 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> holes to allow for fairway expansion.
- Rebuild and expand the forward tees on the 15<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> holes
- Purchase a new greens mower and aerator
- Continue to expand and maintain our cart paths
- Continue to repair and add sand to the bunkers

As always, we on the grounds team will always strive to provide the best possible conditions and the greatest member experience we can on the North Shore. See you in spring 2024!

**2024 Wenham Country Club Membership**

Enclosed are the 2024 membership rates and applications. Wenham Country Club continues to offer the best membership value on the North Shore. Enclosed are the 2024 golf membership application form and rate sheet. We offer over forty golf functions that are member-only and provide guaranteed early weekend tee times from Patriots Day through Columbus Day. Please notify us as soon as possible if you are not returning for the 2024 season.

As a reminder, Mass Golf requires all handicaps to be managed directly by each golfer. Please visit [massgolf.org](http://massgolf.org), click "Join/Renew" and proceed to receive your 2024 handicap. If you previously selected "automatic renew," you do not need to do anything. Mass Golf handicaps will be required to participate in all member tournaments.

PREMIER, FULL, and YOUNG ADULT members must opt for either a tournament assessment or pro shop assessment. Restricted Members will automatically receive pro shop credit. The tournament assessment covers entry fees for select tournaments which are designated on the tournament schedule; non-restricted members that opt for pro shop credit can still play in any club event by paying the entry fee. Please make sure to indicate your assessment choice on the membership application. If no indication is made, the assessment will automatically be placed into the tournament pool. As a reminder, no changes can be made after the tournament season begins (May 15th).

Regular member tournaments are only open to Family, Premier, Full and Young Adult memberships. Restricted members may participate in the mixed holiday tournaments.

**Winter Play**

The course will remain open through December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Temporary tees and greens will be in use as of December 5<sup>th</sup> and the first three holes will be closed until spring. When the course is playable, we ask that you start on the 4<sup>th</sup> tee and use only the temporary greens and tees. This restriction is necessary to prevent damage to the course during the winter.

*Winter play is only available if a down payment toward a 2024 membership has been made.*

Enjoy your winter season. Be well and we look forward to golfing with you in the spring! The clubhouse will reopen on Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup>. We will celebrate opening day on Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, with a mixed tournament followed by a welcome back reception.

Sincerely,

Norm & Sue, Russ & Pat Tarr, Ryan McDonald, Alex Daly, and the rest of the team at W.C.C.