



# PONDEROSA COUNTRY CLUB

Newsletter—JUNE 2022



## PONDO PEEPS

	<i>Scott Pine</i>
Started playing golf (age & location)	<i>1983 while in college; Manhattan, KS</i>
What I like to do other than golf	<i>BBQ, walk with my wife &amp; dogs</i>
Favorite pro player & why	<i>Tom Watson – humble &amp; persistent; Collin Morikowa – classic swing, steady</i>
Best golf advice ever received	<i>Breathe in, breathe out</i>
How I describe a good day on the course	<i>Any day I'm out on the course</i>
Favorite snacks for the course	<i>Protein bar &amp; unsweet tea</i>



	<i>Dan Wiegand</i>
Started playing golf (age & location)	<i>35 YO, Smiths Creek, MI</i>
What I like to do other than golf	<i>Boating</i>
Favorite pro player & why	<i>Rory McIlroy – looks like a fun golfer</i>
Best golf advice ever received	<i>Still waiting for some good advice</i>
How I describe a good day on the course	<i>If I score in the 80s, it's a great day!</i>
Favorite snacks for the course	<i>Craisins</i>



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## PONDO CRITTERS

← [SNAKE SIGHTING](#) on left side of ditch crossing on hole #9 (photo byn Sarah Watson)



↓ ['FORE' THE BIRDS](#) by Gary R. Evans

In 2021 I became interested in more than just golfing and Fishing at the Ponderosa Golf Course. I'd noticed and enjoyed the bluebirds around the golf course for some time. But I also noticed that many of the existing bird boxes were in need of repair or replacement. After securing permission, I tackled the task to repair, replaced and add new boxes around the course. I used scrap lumber and built according to the specifications of the North American Bluebird Society.

Boxes were mounted in such a way as to prevent (or at least discourage) predators.

We now have 21 boxes

on the course and I've kept records since the project began. Last year there were 28 young birds that fledged (flew from the box) during the first nesting. Bluebirds generally begin nesting around late March or early

April. After the

young leave the box, they are still

fed by the adults for a week or so. During this time the adult bluebirds will often begin a second nest. In 2021, there were 21 young birds that fledged from the boxes during this second nesting period. This year (2022) 46 bluebird young have already fledged from the boxes on the golf course. As for the second nesting at last count, there were 49 young that have flow and 9 eggs remaining to hatch.

Incubation period

for bluebirds is 13-15 days, and the young leave the nest around 15-18 days later. Assuming all goes well with the young, there will be 58 bluebirds to join the others that were raised earlier this year. That's a total of 104 more bluebirds raised this year. This project is definitely a challenge. But it's been extremely rewarding and amazing to see the results of what a little effort can do. And to think, occasionally bluebirds will have a third nesting period in one summer! That's more young bluebirds. And the count goes on.



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## PONDO PROFESSIONALS

### ***GENERAL MANAGER & GOLF PRO – Ben Metts***

As you may already know, my last day as Ponderosa's Golf Professional is 4 June. I've so enjoyed my time at Ponderosa, but more importantly, I value the relationships forged over my 15 years working at PCC. I couldn't have asked for a more professional and outstanding staff to work with; their efforts have been instrumental in the promotion and growth of the game and our membership. I'll forever treasure the memories of coaching budding golfers of all skill levels and ages, ranging from 8 to 80! The relationships I've built will never be forgotten! Initially, I'll give the new Pro/GM some space, but will return as a PCC member by the end of the year. I look forward to "playing a few" with familiar faces and participating in future club events! Thank you again and I hope to see you out on the links!  
Fairways and Greens,  
Ben

### ***SUPERINTENDENT – Dean Bedenbaugh***

I'd like to thank everyone for the compliments on the course. There's a herculean effort that goes on behind the scenes in order to give our members the best course condition possible within our available budget. In my 29 years as Ponderosa's superintendent, I've never seen this much play – which is great for the economic health of our club. Our goal is to continue the Ponderosa tradition of providing a top quality, but affordable golf experience. We follow the *Carolinas Golf Course Superintendents Association's* recommendations for optimal maintenance of our Tifeagle Bermuda grass. These are best management practices developed in coordination with Clemson University. To ensure comprehensive adherence to these guidelines, we are adjusting playing hours as stated below, **effective 6 June**:

M, W, TH & FR open at **8:00 am**

TU open at **11:00 am**

Weekend open at **7:30 am**.

**Please do not go on the course before these times.**

Here's a summary of our maintenance activities during these times:

- verticutting to remove thatch/mat control (promotes lateral & vertical grass growth)
- rolling greens for firmness and optimal ball roll
- top dressing of greens and tees (improves resiliency & smooths out surfaces)
- spraying of fairways (fertilizer & weed control)
- various other chemical applications

As our membership continues to expand, it's imperative to execute this maintenance without the interruption of golf play. Also, please observe all cart signs, and ropes, as these are in place to keep the course in the best possible condition. Thanks for honoring and supporting our efforts to maintain the best course in the midlands!

Dean

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## FROM THE BOARD

### ***RULES REMINDERS***

- **CARTS:** If you can pair with a fellow golfer to share a cart, but choose NOT to, you are required to pay a \$10 upcharge. NO carts are allowed within 30 feet of greens and tee boxes.
- **DRESS CODE:** PCC's policies require tasteful golf attire on the facility grounds. No cut offs, Daisy Duke shorty shorts, halter tops, tank tops, etc. Swimwear must have cover ups when going in/around the clubhouse.
- **GUEST POLICY:** PCC's policies allow members to bring the same guest to golf or swim a limit of twice/month. Adult children living at home who are also full-time students (under 25 yrs old) are covered by the parents' membership.

For more details, read the Bylaws, Policies and Procedures at:

<https://www.theponderosacountryclub.com/policies-and-procedures-and-by-laws>

### ***WITH GROWTH COMES CHANGE***

The Ponderosa membership has skyrocketed from 280 to 410 over the last 2 years – a record high! That doesn't mean that we have 410 golfers, but many more! A large portion of those '410 memberships' have a spouse and dependent family members playing as well. In order to accommodate the high demand for play among our growing club, the Board will require the new Pro/General Manager develop a plan to ensure maximum play, especially during holidays, weekends and other peak demand time frames. This likely will involve tee times, policing slow play and other means to ensure PCC members can reliably schedule a 3-4 hour round when they want. The Board will also require the new GM propose and enforce etiquette and standards worthy of our family friendly club. This may involve limits on where food and beverages are consumed in/around the clubhouse.

Lastly, hiring process for Ben's replacement is underway (*even though he is irreplaceable!*). The 4- board member hiring committee has begun interviews and hopes to have round 1 complete by 3 June. The Board pledges to get the best candidate available. We want someone who appreciates and understands our culture, but also has skills, experiences, ideas and drive to effectively grow our club, preserve the excellent stewardship of the course, ensure the economic health & viability of the club, and much more. Stay patient and stay tuned...

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## MISCELLANEOUS UPDATES

### ***COUPLES SOCIAL***

Our latest couples' social on May 20 was a lot of fun. Ten couples golfed and later indulged in pulled pork, baked beans, and slaw! The next social is June 24 at 4:30. We are hoping for a record crowd. Lilly will be preparing hamburgers with all the fixings, baked beans, and pasta salad. This will be the last time until next year that she'll be able to prepare the meal for

us. Betty is getting catering quotes from nearby restaurants and will be sending an email update soon. If anyone who's interested, but not receiving email notices, please send your information to [bsgebert@gmail.com](mailto:bsgebert@gmail.com). We encourage and welcome any/all couple to join in the fun. Betty and Phil Gebert

### MEMORIAL DAY TOURNEY

There was a full-field turnout for the annual Memorial Day tourney.



5-30-22 MEMORIAL DAY										
NAME	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Betty's Trent's Milton C.							63			56
Scott P. Scott B. Ann C. Scott C.							61			57
Vic B. Hunter Andy S. Jim Der.							62		55	4th net
John K. Kex Stress J. Marion							63			56
Rich Bill M. Danny S. Kip							59			54
Jeff C. Tristan Mike S. Max Me							63			55
Steve Judy John S. James S.							67			59
Kent V. Mike S. Rick Vince							62			56

EVENT										
NAME	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Danny C. Mark W. Will B. Joel							65			60
Bob C. Mike C. Cory C. Richard C.							70			62
Bill B. Shawn Jackson Kyle							61		54	2nd net
Dean Parker Gary E. Charlied.							69			60
10-B Sarah Zona Nandy R. Don N.							66			59
Colman Deon S. T. Carter							60			56
Earle Zach Do Jim							59		52	1st net
12 Matty Michael Josh Nathan							62		54	3rd net

EVENT 5-30-22 MEMORIAL DAY										
NAME	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Chris Patrick Todd C. Jake							66			58
4 Wes B. Tyson B. Rick B. Jim B.							64			55
15 Wilbur Kathy Shannon Rick H.							64			58
16A Ted L. Carson L. Justin B. J.R. Rubbee							65			57
16B Chad Andrew Shelton James E.							62			57
17 Joey Hosfan E.R. Joseph							61			58
18 Chris Jarrod Robbie Troy Lor							57			54

GROSS  
 ① 40 SA.  
 ② 35 SA.  
 NET  
 ① 40 EA  
 ② 35 EA  
 ③ 30 EA

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## MEN'S & WOMEN'S GROUP NEWS

### ***PWGA – Marsha Carroll***

The work on #9 orange tee is complete, which was funded by the PWGA. Dean and his staff did a phenomenal job restoring the tee to playable condition, which benefits young and old alike. PWGA will continue to seek and fund worthy projects to improve the course for all.

Summer tournament season is in full swing and the Ponderosa PWGA is well represented in the following:

June 6	Non handicap team matches	Beech Creek
June 7	WSCGA stroke play	Indigo Creek
June 8	WSCGA 2 person best ball	Hilton Head
June 9	Handicap team matches	Ponderosa
June 14-16	WSCGA State Amateur	Ft. Jackson
June 20-21	Sonic Women's Champ	Forest Lake
June 28	Sandlapper (stableford)	Lakeside
June 28-29	Carolina's Women 4 Ball	Lake Lure
June 28	Senior Women's stroke play	Santee Cooper

The quarterly Silly Saturday tournament was held 30 April at noon. We maxed out the participation limit with 36 players and had a waiting list! Hacking and laughing around the course, followed by scrumptious hors d'oeuvres and wine afterwards keeps the ladies coming back every quarter. There is a waiting list for this popular format of fun golf, so sign up early for the next quarterly event.

**Ladies Tee Time CHANGE:** Our recurring group tee times will change to 11:00 am on Tuesdays starting 7 June. Thursday tee time will remain at 9:00 am through the summer.

If there is anyone interested in renting a locker, please notify Betty Gebert. We have one remaining. The next PWGA meeting will be Thursday 23 June at 2:00 pm. We invite all new ladies to come out and enjoy the fun of golf with us.

Marsha Carroll, PWGA President

### ***PMGA – Bob Welborn***

Junior golf will be held 21 June 5:30-6:30. All junior golfers are welcome and membership is not required. The PMGA is also working on a June social, scheduled for late June on a Friday. We'll probably serve hamburgers and hotdogs and have live music. Details to follow. The Father's Day tournament is scheduled for Saturday 11 June. Format and signup sheet forthcoming. Thanks for your support of the PMGA and more importantly, supporting our Junior Golfers!

Bob Welborn, PMGA President

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## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Casey and Bailey Padgett	Jason and Jennifer Druce
Marc and Jennifer Sightler	Mark and Kelly Johnson
Brandon Vaughan	Roger and Pam Burroughs
Casey and Jessica Stephens	Wesley and Annette Bray
David and Jecelyn Snider	Kyle and Casey Fowler
Wesley and Ashley Unrue	Mike and Sharon Steinbacher
Ed and Stephanie Burgess	Laurie and Jim Gondor
Harrison Gibson	Jeremy and Leigh Yuhas
Mike and Julie Jacobson	Tim Hoskins
Mark Goodson	Kurt and Roxane Richardson
Joseph Barroll	Darren and Tricia Amick
Drew Amick	Jay and Kim Hendrix
Rick and Shannon Hammond	Cecil Derrick and Lisa McRae
Chad and Jessica McMurray	

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP: 411

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## SAVE THE DATE

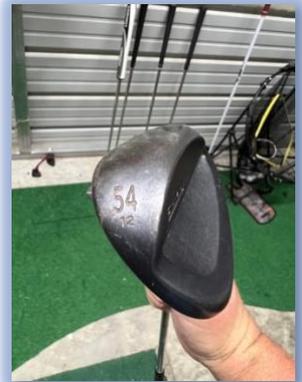
DATE	EVENT	NOTES	\$
2 JUN	B-L Baseball fundraiser		
4 JUN	Ridge Philanthropy fundraiser		
9 JUN	Ladies' Handicap Match League		
13 JUN	Coaches Assoc of Women's Sports		
24 JUN	Couples' Social		
4 JUL	Independence Day tourney	Captain's choice	\$15+
16-17 JUL	PMGA club championship	Sign up by 13 July	\$20+
26 JUL	Central Seniors		
28 JUL	Ladies' Team Match		
30-31 JUL	Member/Guest tourney		\$300/team
4 AUG	Aerification	Closed all day	-
10-11 SEP	PWGA club championship	Sign up by 7 Sep	\$20+
15 SEP	Lexington Choral Society		
3 OCT	Midlands Seniors		
6 OCT	SC Lutheran Retreat Center		
13 OCT	SC Burn Foundation		
17 OCT	Aiken Church Society		

+ **Tourney fee PLUS normal green & cart fees**

## FOR [RE]SALE

\$200 for all or \$60 each. Contact Scott Collins 803-530-7871 or email [collinsscott823@gmail.com](mailto:collinsscott823@gmail.com)  
50, 54, 56, 60 Ping glide 2.0 stealth. Dynamic Gold s200 stiff shaft. 56 has Ping ascending weight technology 2.0 wedge shaft.

Want to list GOLF-related [re]sale items? Email information and photos to:  
[The360DegreeExperience@gmail.com](mailto:The360DegreeExperience@gmail.com).



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## BOARD MEMBERS

POSITION	NAME	COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN	NAME
PRESIDENT	Joe Tollison	OPERATIONS	Scott Collins
VICE PRESIDENT	Darryl Farmer	MEMBERSHIP	Darryl Farmer
PRESIDENT	Austin Childers Teddy Luckadoo	FACILITIES	Teddy Luckadoo
TREASURER		FINANCE	Austin Childers
SECRETARY		POLICIES, PROCEDURES & PERSONNEL	Ann Garner

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## CLUB HOURS:

***Pro Shop:***

7:30 am - 6:00 pm

***Snack Bar:***

8:30 am - 8:00 pm

***Golf Course Open for Play:***

7:30 am weekends

11:00 am Tuesdays

8:00 am M, W, Th & Fr

Subject to change due to staffing or weather.



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## CONTACT US:

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