

"Nine is fine"

# The Island Green

Minnechaug Golf Course Newsletter

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April 2018

## We are open!

On Friday March 30th, Minnechaug open the doors for the start of its 70th season. The weather was wet but it didn't deter golfers from hitting the course on Good Friday.

Superintendent Mike Pieri became more optimistic each day that we would open soon even though mother nature was not cooperating.

"As important as it is having warm temperatures during the day to get rid of snow, it's just as important to have temperatures stay above freezing at night" said Pieri Minnechaug Superintendent.

Mike was able to get out in February to do some early spring cleaning so once the snow melts should not take much to get it up and running.

"I need a day to get the course in shape" Pieri said in mid march. "I need to blow off the greens and tees, things like that"

As promised Mike and crew got that day and now the course is open as the 70th season celebration is underwat.

Almost 70 guesses have been submitted in our "Out with the Cold" contest where golfers guess the date we will open. We had seven winners of a free round.

Congratulations to winners Audra Conroy, Dan Nardini, Heather Rees, Jayden Srgo, Monica Page, Lynn Stokes, Lisa Hancock.

April's contest is "Who will win the Masters". Submit a guess by 7:00 AM Thursday, April 5th. Same prize, win a free round of golf.



Bill and Caroline Cermignani were the first golfers of the 2018 season here at Minnechaug. You have to love their passion for the game. A little rain didn't stop them. Way to go Bill & Caroline.

## Hump Day Hitters

We have created a new league here at Minnechaug. Wednesday nights will be our Hump Day Hitters league. Enjoy discounted rates for riding and walking. Receive a coupon for Giovanni's for use every time after you play. Establish a handicap if you do not have one. What's great about this league it is a pay as you play league. Prize money is awarded in the form of Pro Shop credit. It's a great way to get ready for Men's Club action on the weekend. The season is set to begin on April 25th, tee times begin at 4:00 PM. It will run through mid-August. There will be a few Wednesday we do not play. There is an application on our website.

## What's on Page 2:

**A Masters Preview:**

**Tiger is back!**

**Taylor Made & Callaway reviews.**

**Who has the better new Driver?**

**Men's Club:**

**Still time to sign up!**

**April Calendar**

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### 2018 Masters:

#### Tiger's presence definitely a factor!

After Tiger's run at Bay Hill, he is now the favorite to win the Master's at 9-1. Dustin Johnson (11-1) is now the second favorite. We all know that lines are made as much as anything as too how the public will bet. DJ is the best golfer in the world right now, but Tiger's presence has an influence.

Tiger's game is getting better and better. But there are some guys out there that are playing very well. Rory won at Bay Hill, Patrick Reed is got it going.

Jon Rahm, Justin Thomas, Justin Rose, Tommy Fleetwood and Rickie Fowler all have to be considered. Oh, and lefty is lurking and playing very well.

Long shots? That's funny, these

guys are great golfers, but because of their odds, they are long shots.

The afore mentioned Patrick Reed, 60-1. Marc Leishman, 75-1. Matt Kuchar, 85-1? He finished T-4 last year. The Island Greens editor picks, Rafa Cabrera-Bello at 100-1. A lot is made about having to have the game for Augusta but the way we see it, if you have a hot putter you can win.

For a lot of us the Masters is really the official kick off to spring. But this Masters has a little different feel to it now that Tiger is a factor. Love him or hate him somehow he gets you to watch.

Former Minnechaug Pro and now PGA Director of Golf at Lyman Orchards, John Dipollina said it the best "Without Tiger, golf survives, with Tiger golf thrives". Right on Johnny!

### Taylor Made M2 vs Callaway GBB Epic

#### Drivers:

Just two of the new Drivers hitting the market are the Taylor Made M2 and the Callaway GBB Epic. So which is best, our research points to the M2 for a few reasons. One, the feel off the face at impact. Testers concluded that the M2 has more jump off the face, to use a baseball terminology, better trampoline effect. M2 also produces a shorter launch angle and less ball spin rate, both add up to a longer shot.

#### Minnechaug Men's Club

The club's first event is April 7th, the club is still looking for players. During the year we like to get members playing outside there normal foursomes by having 2-Man events where teams are drawn by lot, handicap or other format. Call today for more information.

## April 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Sunday Bunch League Practice	2	3	4	5	6	7 Men's Club 1 <sup>st</sup> event
8 Sunday Bunch League 1 <sup>st</sup> event	9	10	11	12	13	14 Men's Club
15 Sunday Bunch League	16 GHS JV Boys Practice 3pm	17	18 EC vs GHS JV Prac. 3pm	19 GHS VS Simsbury/Portland 3pm	20	21 Men's Club
22 Sunday Bunch League	23 EC vs GHS JV Boys Practice 3PM Junior Clinic 3PM	24 GHS JV Boys Practice 3PM Adult Clinic 6PM	25 EC vs 3PM Hump Day Hitters 4PM 1 <sup>st</sup> Event	26 GHS JV Boys Practice 3PM	27	28 Men's Club
29 Sunday Bunch League	30 GHS JV Boys Practice 3PM Junior Clinic 3PM					