

To the members,

Welcome to the New Year. 2019 is here and it brings with it rain, snow and cold. Being in the golf business, the rain events that occurred in December are a reason for concern in that the ground is frozen and there is nowhere for the water to go but lay on top of the grass until the spring thaw. Ice cover and grass usually doesn't mix well, in that it can suffocate the grass to the point of winter kill. Fall prep was done in our usual manner and once again we are confident in our preparations, but ultimately Mother Nature is in charge. We are optimistic in a good outcome.

Changes this past season were plentiful with generally good feedback. Monday night league played a new format, ½ Chicago points, ½ Ryder cup. All who played enjoyed the format, with positive results. Forward tees were implemented for all men's tournaments this past season. Depending on age is where you teed from with the idea of making the play easier, faster and more enjoyable. New Senior Ladies tees were installed in late summer in response to their requests. The red 16 inch paver stones were placed in the fairway cut approx. 50 to 75 yards forward to provide them a shorter course to be more competitive during league play and to make the game in general more enjoyable. Golf's "Move it forward" initiative has been implemented over the last 3 seasons here at the club with great success.

On the lesson front, we had the pleasure of having Ina Davis return for the 2018 summer. Her gift of teaching the game, her personality along with her relentless work ethic was once again a true asset to the club as well as the golfing community as a whole. Her wealth of knowledge for teaching the game benefitted many and we are hoping to have her back for one more season.

In August Rob Robinson came knocking on our door and we welcomed him. Rob brings 20 years of golf instruction and coaching to the Terrace Bluff. Rob started his career in 1996 as a head basketball coach and golf instructor at Northland College in Ashland, WI. He spent summers working at Chequamegon Bay Golf Club instructing, running their junior programs and working in the proshop. In 2012 he moved to Menomonie, WI to be the assistant basketball coach at Wisconsin Stout and in 2014 he returned to Ashland for the golf season where he took over the duties of Director of Golf at Chequamegon Bay Golf club. In 2015 Rob became the head golf coach at UW-Stout with much success. The summer of 2017 was spent as director of golf at Tanglewood Greens in Menomonie, WI before moving to the Upper Peninsula to be Women's' Basketball Coach at Bay College. "Diana and I are excited to be part of the Gladstone/Escanaba community, everyone has been very welcoming. I am looking forward to meeting all of you and helping your golf game however I can." Rob resides in Gladstone with his wife Diana who is a teacher at Mid-Pen schools. They have two daughters, Breann (25) and Rebekka (22) along with a granddaughter Macie (2). We look forward to having Rob on our team and are excited to use his many talents both in the shop and on the range.

Rob will also be an asset when we host the Men's UPGA Tournament that is returning to the club this upcoming August. We have held this event twice back in 1995 and 2005 which consists of 4 days of competitive golf. Volunteers will be needed for tasks such as scoring, starting, welcoming and registration. Keep us in mind as the date draws near.

Congratulations go out to last season's winners in our various drawings and raffles. Steve Douglas won a membership with the Early Buy-In give away. At the Opening Party, Sharon Calouette won the membership raffle. Kari Fassbender was a double winner where she won a set of Titleist irons at the Summer Appreciation event and a membership at the Closing Party!! Congratulations to our lucky members on their holes – in – one. Kyle Pouliot on #5, Mike Skradski on #11 and John Breitenbach on #7.

In closing, thank you to all the members for your continued support. We truly enjoy serving you and the golfing community as a whole and are looking forward to the upcoming season.

Sincerely,

Tony Pouliot  
Terrace Bluff Golf Club