

July, 2012

Volume 1, Issue 1

## WELCOME TO OUR FIRST NEWSLETTER



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## **NEWSLETTER**

Welcome to the 2012 golf season, perhaps a bit late (this newsletter has been in the works for awhile) Of course, some have been playing fairly regularly since January due to our record high temperatures. An early start means

the grass and the flowers look wonderful, and the golf course is in excellent condition as always. Please come out and play a round of golf, it's almost always easy to find an open time. We do take reservations on the



weekends; during the week it can help to call ahead as well.

Our Pro Shop is open seven days a week, and we are always ready to help with any of your equipment needs (including, but not limited to: new custom clubs, re-gripping, re-shafting, length adjustments, loft and lie adjustments, golf bags, golf balls, and junior clubs). If you would like to find out how well your clubs fit your swing, call and make a club fitting appointment with Sam. All club fitting fees are applied towards the purchase of any new club, and the experience can be informative and well worthwhile.

Some of the new grips from Winn and Lamkin have been very popular already. If you've been wondering if your grips are okay, stop in and check out our rather enormous selection. Re-gripping usually only takes one to two days, and it really can make a difference to your game. After all, the grip is your connection to your club, and it does need to feel comfortable and secure.

## Indian Hills Newsletter



# To putt successfully, it is necessary to control the speed and direction of the ball very precisely



## **Putting Tips**

Everyone enjoys shooting lower scores, and the most important part of scoring is putting. Most golfers use their putter for approximately 40% of their strokes in a round. Since the putting stroke does not require a complicated athletic motion, it is an area in which all golfers can improve, regardless of experience, athleticism, or physical condition.

To putt successfully, it is necessary to control the speed and direction of the ball very precisely. Achieving precision in the direction of the ball requires that the golfers eyes view the ball and the intended line accurately. The human eye is an amazing instrument and it takes in an incredible amount of information, but it is important that they receive accurate information. It is possible to train your eyes to see the line of a putt accurately, and it is equally easy to train your eyes incorrectly. This type of inaccurate perception is the main cause of missed putts inside three feet.

Virtually all good putters create this accurate view of their intended line by positioning their eyes directly over the ball or inside the ball by no more than three inches. It is also recommended that both eyes are parallel to the line of the putt. In fitting a putter, both the length and the lie angle of the putter will affect the relationship between the eyes and the ball.

Consistently controlling the speed and distance of a putt requires consistent tempo and a consistent rate of acceleration. While each golfer generally has their own optimal tempo, and it can vary considerably from one player to another, the speed of the forward stroke should be twice the speed of the backswing. The weight of a putter can vary, and ideally the correct weight can help the golfer develop the consistent tempo and speed control that will optimize their putting.

Again, putting does not require a complicated athletic motion. Ultimately it is primarily a psychological event that requires extreme precision. To putt well requires confidence, feel and the proper visual alignment. There are many ways to putt successfully. If you haven't found the best way yet, keep trying. Better yet, call Sam at Indian Hills and schedule a putting evaluation!

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Indian Hills is a 9 hole golf course that is one Lansing area's hidden treasures. Wonderfully maintained, the golf course features lush fairways and consistently rolling greens. Mature trees frame the fairways and strategically placed bunkers and water hazards challenge your game. Indian Hills caters to golfers of all levels. The course is short enough for beginners to feel comfortable... while still providing a challenge for the expert player, The golf course is highlighted by abundant wildlife and numerous eye catching gardens.

At Indian Hills Custom Golf, we've been building custom golf clubs since 1979. Our professionally certified club makers Sam Anderson and J.C. Petersen can customize clubs for golfers of all abilities, from beginners to top players. Our full service pro shop offers a full range of club repairs, including re-gripping, extending or shortening clubs, reshafting, loft and lie adjustments and much more. Most repairs can be done promptly and expertly within 48 hours. Custom club fitting by appointment Monday-Saturday.



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"Get Your Thrills at Indian Hills"

## J.C.'s Course Notes

**Red, White and Blue**— We have had requests for more "verticality" in our fairway yardage markers. Now, in addition to the marked sprinkler heads and plaques along the fairway edges, several of the holes feature short color coded rods. These red, white, and blue markers represent 100,150,and 200 yards respectively. They are designed to be undamaged by the mowers.

We need your help— Every year we attempt to improve the playing conditions at Indian Hills. Sometimes the emphasis is on drainage, other times it might be on irrigation upgrades or rebuilding the tee boxes. Lately we've been thinning trees to increase sunlight on key turf. We've also been aerating/spiking the greens and tees more often to improve rooting. This is imperative if the turf is to survive the hot, humid weather ahead. Our crew performs these and many other crucial jobs but some important tasks can be done effectively by you, the golfer. Specifically, we need your help with ball marks and divots. The turf injuries have to be dealt with almost immediately because of root exposure. By the time our crew can respond it is usually too late. Please replace divots or fill with the divot mix found on the tees and on the golf carts. Ball marks can repaired with a tee or various tools but the most important is to pinch the hole shut and <u>not</u> pry the depression up as this will rip the roots. Please help keep our course in the best possible condition.

**She looks good for her age**— We are frequently asked how long the golf course has been here. The honest answer is we're not sure. Old deeds and title searches mention the golf course as early as the mid 1920's. At the time the course was much longer. In the fifties three holes were developed as residential property. The remaining six holes were reconfigured by adding the current 2nd, 4th, and 9th greens to create the shorter nine holes we have today.

**Best times to play**— We have leagues Mon-Fri 8-9 AM and again in the afternoons Mon-Wed about 4:30-6PM. Our weekday senior group has the tee Mon-Fri from 1-1:30. The rest of the time is open golf. Generally, the easiest times to get on during the week are 10AM—Noon and 2-4PM. On weekends the mornings are usually wide open and we take weekend tee times beginning the Thursday before.



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