

CORDOVA BAY GOLF COURSE NEWSLETTER

THE FORWARD PRESS

May 2023

QUICK LINKS

[BILL MATTICK'S RESTAURANT](#)

[BOOK A TEE TIME](#)

[LESSONS](#)

[TODAY @ THE BAY](#)

[ONLINE SHOP](#)

DRIVING RANGE

7:30 AM - 7:00 PM*

Last balls sold 30 minutes prior to closing time

*6:00 PM close on Sundays

RIDGE COURSE

Hours: 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM

PARC SHORT GAME

Hours: 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM

BILL MATTICK'S RESTAURANT

Hours: 11:30 AM - 9:00 PM

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The Bay Farm & Flowers

By: Chelsea Welch and Morgan Wilkins - Horticulturists

After a long winter and a cool spring, it looks like warm weather is finally upon us. They say April showers bring May flowers, well ours will soon pop! Bulbs are emerging and we've been busy planting out the flowers and veggies we started from seed in our humble greenhouse months ago. We thought we'd switch it up this

newsletter and take you down memory lane. During renovations in our maintenance bay, we found a treasure! A binder full of photographs from the course taken within the first five years it was open. We have paired them with pictures from the current day to see the transformation! We'll share more later in the year.

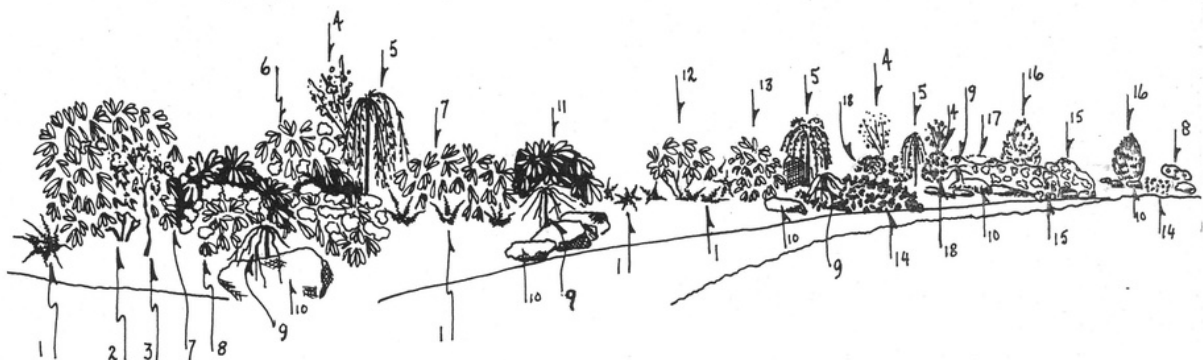
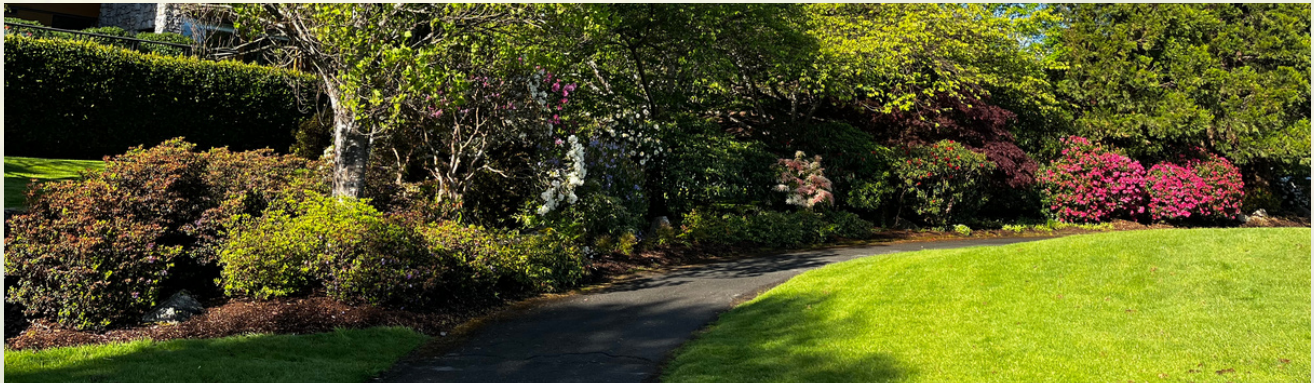
Left side of the driving range ramp



7 grass garden (facing 6 washrooms)



9 ornamental bed



Original sketch from the early 1990's

Pro-Spective

By: Jim Goddard - Director of Golf

Editors note:

Cordova Bay Golf Course has been around for nearly 32 years. Though our history is in the toddler phase compared to many other golf courses around the world, we're pretty lucky to be holding on to some of the originals from the early 90's. Jim Goddard, now the Director, started at Cbay as the Head Professional and was heavily involved in the planning, organizing, and operation of the golf course. His role may have changed over the years, but his humour sure hasn't. This edition of the Foreward Press features a Pro-Spective written by Jim back in the Spring of '94, the same year Ernie Els won the U.S. Open, Amazon.com is founded, and the Vancouver Canucks lost to the New York Rangers.

One of the scariest duties I perform on a daily basis is "walking the line." With all due respects to the Dallas Cowboy's defense I don't think there is a tougher 50 yard stretch of artificial turf in the world than our driving range. It's not the funny looking swings or the foul language that gets to me... it's the practice habits.

There's one fellow who gets his driver regripped weekly. "You see," he says to me, "it's a DRIVING range, I come to DRIVE!" The last I checked, golf was played with 14 clubs. There's another fellow who either has severe intestinal problems or thinks that he gets a rebate if he finishes a large pail of balls in 90 seconds. I know he's never seen a ball land, he's too busy looking for another ball to hit.

Then there's my favourite. I call him "Kong." Kong gets a kick out of hitting the ball hard. Our driving range is about two and a half fairways wide. Nine out

of ten of Kong's drives miss the driving range. But boy does he hit them hard! I've told Kong that he can't play the course until he increases his liability coverage.

I think you have a good idea by now of how not to practice. Here's how...

1. Always aim at a target
2. Simulate play through visualization.
3. Practice with all your clubs
4. Practice pitching and chipping.
5. Warm-up properly
6. Always be aware of tempo and rhythm
7. Utilize Toptracer to "gameify" your practice (okay okay, this one's NOT from 1994...but is valid for any golfers who likes to keep track of improvements in their game.)

REMEMBER, ONLY PERFECT PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT.



Birdies of the Bay

By: Bob Reese and John Costello - Birders & Photographers

Golden-crowned Kinglets (*Regulus satrapa*) are small, rather plump birds that are noted for their almost constant movement and foraging behaviour. As one of the smallest perching birds in the world (larger than a hummingbird but smaller than a Chickadee) they are easily identified by the bright golden-yellow and contrasting black feathers on their crowns. Unlike females, males have a bright thin layer of orange feathers nested in the middle of their crowns. Other characteristic features for both sexes include a short narrow black bill, thin white stripes above and below their eyes and throat, one white wing bar, pale olive green along their backs and wings and light gray underneath. When sitting still, the combination of colours and size can make them a joy to see.



Whether hopping from branch to branch or foraging closer to the ground among shrubs and weeds, they search for gnats, caterpillars, aphids and spiders, including their eggs and other invertebrates. They have also been known to visit oozing sap wells left behind by woodpeckers and flickers.

Found throughout most of North America, they have a preference for breeding in higher elevations among coniferous trees such as spruce, fir, and hemlock. The female will typically build a nest about 15 meters up in a location that provides protection both from the weather and predators. The hanging nest will typically be constructed from a combination of moss, lichens, twigs, and leaves and bound together with spiderweb. The elasticity of the webbing binds the materials together and allows the nest to expand as the young grow. Soft materials such as feathers and plant down are used to line the inside.

During the breeding and nesting season, the male will assume the role as defender of their territory. With the approach of another male, or other perceived threat, he will lean forward, begin to vocalize, and display his orange crown while flicking his wing and tail feathers.

In proportion to their size, Golden-crowns are known for laying large clutches of eggs. While 6-8 eggs are thought to be typical, some researchers have found nests filled with as many as 11. The weight of a clutch of eggs can be up to 78% of that of the female's body mass. Quite a considerable feat for a bird weighing about 5 grams. As the female incubates the eggs for the 15 days, the male will do all the necessary hunting and caring for his partner. Once hatched, both parents will feed the young for the 14-19 days it takes for them to fledge. Typically, Golden-crowns will raise two clutches a year. While that may seem a bit out of the ordinary, these birds live so close to the margins at times that this seems to be



Nature's adaptation for assuring the survival of the species.

With the onset of the colder months, Golden-crowns, while continuing to remain in the northern regions, will move to lower elevations in their search for food sources. From Fall through early Spring, they can often be found mixed in with other small birds such as nuthatches, chickadees and Brown Creepers in what has been described as "small feeding flocks". The need to maintain their high body temperature and metabolism during colder periods requires they constantly forage for food. If on one of these colder days a kinglet cannot locate sufficient nutrition every few hours, it faces imminent starvation and death. In areas where the winter has been especially severe, die offs of up to 80% of the population in that area have been recorded.

If you put out a suet feeder during the colder months, be sure to check occasionally to see if some Golden-

crowned kinglets might be in with the chickadees, nuthatches, and woodpeckers who frequent the feeder. Since they maintain their colours through the seasons, that bright golden-yellow crown should be easy to spot.

In addition to the challenges of surviving in colder regions, Golden-crowned kinglets, similar to other bird species, are subject to continuing threats from climate change, predation by domestic cats, and pesticides that include neonicotinoids. They need all the help they can get.

These little birds move very fast, making it a real challenge for us photographers. Plus they camouflage quite well in the dense forests. Check out Lesley the Bird Nerd's Youtube channel to see one in action by clicking [here](#).

Putting Surfaces Maintenance Programs

By: Dean Pillar - Superintendent

Over the weekend, someone commented to me on how good the putting surfaces are getting now that we have some growing weather. They followed their comment by asking if we have changed many things in our greens management programs over the years. My quick reply was YES – we changed everything.

The maturity and evolution of Cordova Bay's putting surfaces have been changing gradually over the decades with stronger perennial phenotypes of Annual Bluegrass (*Poa*) evolving over time. These stronger strains of *Poa* are finer bladed, produce less seedhead, and handle much tighter heights of cut. For this very reason, our programs have pushed the cutting heights lower to encourage higher populations of these finer bladed turf grass plants. I don't recall our exact height of cut on opening day, but the standard height of cut on putting surfaces back in the 90's was approximately 3/16th of an inch (0.19"). Today, our height of cut during the winter months is around 1/8th of an inch (0.13") and these heights are taken down in 1/100th of an inch (0.01") increments beginning in March until we reach our summer height of cut around 1/10th of an inch (0.10"). For the non-detailed types, this makes the greens smoother and faster.

Back on opening day, the standard target green speed was between 8 and 9 feet as measured by a stimpmeter. This simple tool is a handheld ramp where a ball is rolled from one end and onto the putting surface. The number of feet the ball rolls from the top of the ramp determines the green's speed. Today, our target green speed is between 10 and 11 feet with the option to push them slightly higher to mid 11's for a special event. There are several factors that determine this target green speed. One of which includes the general level putting surfaces that we have. Yet, we also have to consider the more difficult greens such as #14, which becomes very difficult to putt when speeds approach 12 feet rolls on the stimpmeter.

Photo from www.pga.com





Aside from cut height, moisture and nutrition are the two most important contributors to greens speed. Back in the 90's, the majority of greens nutrition programs were granular based, similar to what you would use on most home lawns. A granular program contributes the necessary nutrients for healthy turf growth, but it is impossible to apply at a light enough rate that doesn't encourage excessive growth and supply lush turf which produces an excessive clipping yield. In today's management programs, nutrition is applied to our putting surfaces with precise accuracy at a fraction of the rate of our old granular programs. These liquid or foliar programs give our greens everything they need to keep healthy but with a fraction of the total nutrition. This approach dramatically reduces the turf growth rate so that putting surfaces putt at roughly the same speed after a fresh 5 am cut and after a full day's growth at 5 in the afternoon. In fact, the growth rate is so controlled that we often only cut the greens 3-4 days per week compared to the 90's when it was necessary to cut 7 days a week. On the days we skip a mowing of the greens, they are rolled with a greens roller to firm up and smooth out surfaces from the previous days traffic. From time-to-time when our surfaces are below target green speed rate, we will cut and roll the putting surfaces. This double procedure often adds around 6 to 8 inches to the green speed.

Once nutrition programs are in place, the next critical variable for putting speeds and firmness is maintaining a moisture level between 20-30%. If moisture levels go below 20%, we experience turf grass wilting in the afternoon. Whereas, we find surfaces are too soft and provide an undesirable lush stand if moisture levels are above 30%. Our industry has provided wetting agents that can help retain moisture or move moisture through the soil profile. These products are excellent in helping us reduce water requirements and produce more uniform moistures than we could achieve in the past.

Once moisture levels are consistent in our target range and clipping yields are low, the next important practice we incorporate into our programs is light and frequent topdressings. This fine dusting of sand every 2-3 weeks dilutes the vegetative matter in the top centimeter of the putting canopy and creates a mineralized surface that is firmer and faster.

There is no exact formula to producing consistent putting surfaces on a day-to-day basis but a combination of all of the above and a finely sharpened mower that produces a perfect cut each day is critical to contributing to the success of our management programs. This week the greens are rolling between 10 feet 6 inches and 11 feet, so I wish you all the best in making many of your putts.



Wine Picks

By: Grant Soutar - Bill Mattick's Restaurant Manager & Sommelier

Three Sisters Winery is the brainchild of husband and wife team Matthew & Rebecca Mikulic. With each of them having a trio of sisters it is a fitting name for a family run winery. Since their first vintage in 2014, Three Sisters philosophy was to produce wines for everyone to enjoy, no matter the occasion. A hands-off approach to wine making allows for the true expression of fruit and the unique characteristics of its home in Naramata to shine through. Join us for dinner or an afternoon on the patio to enjoy one of these fabulous, family-made wines.



2020 Cabernet Franc

Available through the winery: \$30.00

Deep and dark with blackberry and plum on the nose. Full bodied with flavours of spice, bell pepper, and more black fruit balanced with medium acidity and fine tannins. Join us on the patio this summer to enjoy one of the trio of wines.

Enjoy with your summer bbq fare, steak, lamb, or chicken.



2022 Viognier

Everything Wine: \$25.99

Barrel fermentation gives this viognier a rich texture and elegance with orange blossom and citrus on the nose. Flavours of stone fruit, pineapple, and tangerine with a smooth, creamy finish. The elegance of this wine makes it a bit tricky for pairing. Stay away from bold flavoured or high acidity foods.

Enjoy with poached salmon, roast chicken, shellfish or even a light curry.



2022 Rosé

Everything Wine: \$25.99

This 100% Pinot Noir Rosé is ripe with fresh strawberry on the nose. The palate is dry and balanced with refreshing acidity, flavours of red cherry & raspberry leading to a silky finish.

Great as a sipper on the patio or pair with fresh summer salads.

Meet the Team on the Hill

By: Gina Watson - Ridge Manager

There is a buzz going around up at the Ridge these days. Spring has finally arrived and we're heading into a busy beautiful summer. From coffee, clubs, golf clinics, and juniors training to be the next pros, we've got it all happening, all at once, all of the time. Heading into the 2023 summer, you'll be met by some of the new crew. This talented bunch are always there, ready with a smile to begin and end the days at the Ridge. I'd like to introduce the team.

Armaan Nijjar

"I'm a student-athlete who is transferring to UVIC from the University of Alberta. I play soccer and am studying Kinesiology. Don't ask me for golf tips, but I'll join you at the Ridge for a round after my shift. Or if you need a hair cut, well, I'm the guy! Come say hello! This is my second year at the Ridge. Look forward to meeting you!"

Darlene Goddard

"I grew up in Toronto, Ontario and graduated from the University of Toronto. Moved to the Island in the 80's, where we raised our family. I am so grateful for the friends and community we have here. So happy to be a part of this team at my retirement job at the Ridge."

Preslie Mace

"I am a grade 12 student at Lamerick Park Secondary School. In my spare time I like to play softball with my friends. After I graduate, I will be attending Mid Plains Community College in Nebraska to continue my softball career. I love working at the Ridge and meeting new people every shift"

Jacque Henning

"I've got over 20 years experience in marketing and communications. I love to golf but I need to find more time to do so. I love walking my dog, Aussie, each and every day and spending time with my four wonderful grandkids! It's a busy life and I love it. Of all the jobs I've had, this by far has the best office view! See you at the Ridge."

Darlene Potentier

"Before my wonderful life at the Ridge, I worked for Telus, retired, then opened up my own Redesign business until covid. I have two beautiful daughters, and four grandchildren. Soon to be a great grama. Married for 53 wonderful years to my husband Doug. I enjoy golfing and spending time on our boat with friends and family. Never take a day or person you love for granted! Live, love and laugh each day"



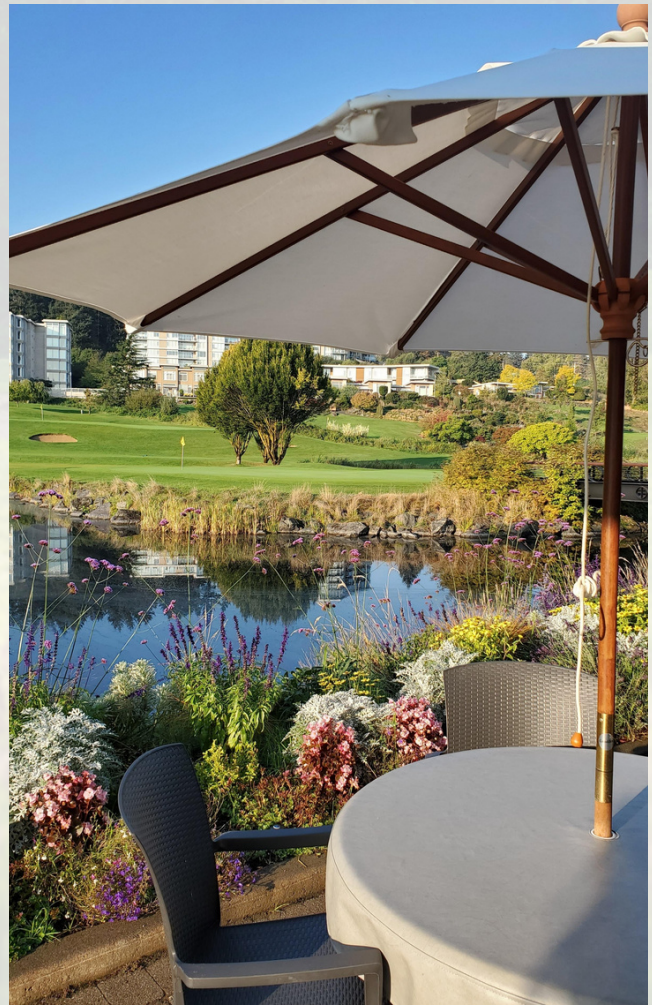
Dave Glancie

"Originally from Gananoque Ontario, I came to BC as a very young RCMP officer in 1975. I spent 36 years in policing all across Vancouver Island. I retired in 2011 and continued to work a few part time jobs with GolfTown, Young Drivers of Canada, and now at Cordova Bay Ridge Course. Working at the Ridge Course is absolutely wonderful. The atmosphere and the Cordova Team members make this job not really a job at all. I have always loved playing golf at the Bay course since it opened and now I have added The Ridge course to my favourites!"

Lisa Guest

"Me...good humoured with a servant attitude. Recently retired from a nursing career at the Royal Jubilee Hospital, assisting people comes naturally. Born and raised in Victoria. I enjoy gardening and walking on the beach, nature and animals, and swimming in the ocean. Throw a little golf in there....life is good. I look forward to serving the golf community, visiting warm climates in the winter season, golfing, and Happy Hours!"

I find it easy to go to work when I know I'll be a part of this group of amazing people. See you soon at the Ridge!



Other Tidbits

Our tee time booking platform is getting a makeover on June 1. Don't worry - everything for you remains the same, including your existing buddy list. It looks sleeker, is more user friendly, and should make booking tee times faster. Below is what you can expect to see in 2 weeks time.

Cordova Bay Golf Course Sign In

Course:

Date:

Players:

Time of Day:

Holes Selection:

Morning Monday, May 22, 2023

7:10 AM
9 HOLES | 2 - 4 GOLFERS CA\$45.00

Late Day Monday, May 22, 2023

3:19 PM 18 HOLES | 2 - 4 GOLFERS CA\$83.00
3:28 PM 18 HOLES | 2 - 4 GOLFERS CA\$83.00
3:37 PM 18 HOLES | 2 - 4 GOLFERS CA\$83.00
3:46 PM 18 HOLES | 2 - 4 GOLFERS CA\$83.00
4:04 PM 18 HOLES | 2 - 4 GOLFERS CA\$83.00
4:13 PM 18 HOLES | 2 - 4 GOLFERS CA\$83.00
5:52 PM 9 HOLES | 2 - 4 GOLFERS CA\$50.00
6:01 PM 9 HOLES | 2 - 4 GOLFERS CA\$50.00
6:10 PM 9 HOLES | 2 - 4 GOLFERS CA\$50.00
6:19 PM 9 HOLES | 2 - 4 GOLFERS CA\$50.00
6:28 PM 9 HOLES | 2 - 4 GOLFERS CA\$50.00
6:37 PM 9 HOLES | 2 - 4 GOLFERS CA\$50.00
6:46 PM 9 HOLES | 2 - 4 GOLFERS CA\$50.00

Cordova Bay Golf Course 5333 Cordova Bay Road info@cordovabaygolf.com Build No: v4.3.102.8500.9130 Powered by eSolutions

Fill Your New Golf Bag Promo!

Running until June 30, this promotion will fill your new bag with some golf goodies. All in stock golf bags over \$200 at Cordova Bay will include a dozen Callaway Supersoft golf balls, tees, a Cordova Bay logoed towel, and a divot mark tool. Inquire at the Pro Shop!

2nd Annual Island Kids Cancer Association Golf Tournament

Have some fun while supporting a great cause. All funds stay local, help our Island kids, youth, and families affected by childhood cancer. We are thrilled to be hosting this tournament on Wednesday August 16. If you are interested in joining or would like to donate to IKCA, check out your options below.



**Island Kids
Cancer
Association**

[CLICK HERE](#) to register
[CLICK HERE](#) for more details