

MARCH 2023



772 Exeter Plantation Road
843-761-4653
berkeleycc@homesc.com
www.berkeleycc.com

Hours of Operation

Pro Shop 7am-5pm

All Carts must be in 15 min prior to Sunset

Exeter Bar & Grill 7am-6pm

Check-In with Golf Shop:

To avoid the golf shop issues with outside play Walking members please Check-In with Golf Shop before teeing off.

Driving Range:

Driving Range is open for Grass Practice on Saturday & Sunday only.

Reminder: Please fix your ball marks on the greens & Fill your divots in fairways.

Business Office

The board of directors would like to invite all members to an open forum meeting on Wednesday, March 8th at 6:00pm upstairs in the Banquet Room. Plan to bring any concerns you may have. We will be discussing course and club conditions. Please come early and join us for wing night in the Grill Room starting at 4:00pm.

Effective March 1st Berkeley County has a 1% sales tax increase (Education Capital Improvement Tax) from 8% to 9%. Due to the new tax increase some prices will be changing to cover this increase.

Prayers for a speedy recovery to member Nick Couch as he was in a very bad car accident. Hope to see you back on the course soon Nick

-Amy Lawrence

Welcome New Members!

Please join us in giving a welcome to our newest BCC Members. We are excited to have each & everyone of you & look forward to seeing you around the club!

Andrew Jenkins

Richard Burn

Caleb Loudin

Terry & Rosemary
Zameroski

Tim & Mary Brown

Parker Gregg

Rhonda Craig

Chris Allen



Board Members

Robert Bogart, President
rbogarvbogart@gmail.com

Nick Avery, Vice President
nfavery@outlook.com

Steve Jones, Superintendent
doggerman@homesc.com

Eric Hayes, Tournaments
chayes@carolinainternational.com

Nick Bauer, Treasurer
nchlsbr@yahoo.com

Kevin Price, Pro/Grillroom
christopherprice64@gmail.com

Greg Tedder, Building
teddergh@yahoo.com

Jonathan Kitts, Secretary
hondo15@homesc.com

Mack Cook, Membership
paige@cookmotorcompany.com



Around the Golf Course

Dear members and golfers as many of you know, this is the time of the year when the grass on the course starts to wake up and depending on what kind of grass we have and what kind of winter our course experiences dictates how easy it is to transition and grow grass in the spring. With this in mind our goal at BCC has always been to prepare the grass in the fall to go into the winter months of the year in the best possible condition. This past fall was no exception. We placed a tremendous amount of effort on balancing playability of the greens as well as preparing them for the winter by raising the mowing height and applying the right fertility program to give us the best chance for success. This is a must for us since our greens are "push up greens" with no subsurface drainage like most other golf courses that have up to date infrastructure like "USGA spec greens.

Our next most important goal has been to employ a sound pre-emergent program for weed control on the course. Due to the implementation of these programs I believe that this is the cleanest I have ever seen BCC. The crabgrass is almost nonexistent and the goosegrass and poa annua have been brought into acceptable levels. I am really pleased with the progress we have made and I think it's going to be a great spring for us as long as "Mother Nature" cooperates.

As for this winter I hope we never see another December, January and February full of rain like we have this year. But if we do, I would expect the same kind of results we are seeing now. Berkeley's infrastructure was not designed to handle this kind of rain event. I don't know if this was a record rain event or not but it certainly felt that way. I'm glad that we don't oversee it because we wouldn't have been able to mow the grass and it would have been an absolute mess. But on the flip side of that coin every course that doesn't oversee deals with some of the same issues we are dealing with now. The more it rains the more pronounced or poor drainage and heavy soil becomes. The wet areas around the greens and cart paths with limited drainage mudded out and some of the areas that mudded out totally disintegrated the grass canopy. This has made playing conditions very difficult and not enjoyable at all.

Of course, we are not the only course in the area to experience poor conditions due to too much rain but our conditions were compounded by our weak infrastructure. Normally a golf course needs a minimum of 3% fall to achieve good drainage. We have areas of the course that have limited fall like 2,9,11 and 18 just to name a few of these areas. Of those areas only 2 and 11 have some internal drainage and even that isn't enough to deal with that much water. This creates a real problem with too much rain in the winter with our heavy soils that become inundated with moisture. At that point the water has no place to go and it's not hot enough for it to evaporate. Let's hope this doesn't happen again, but I would always expect an unpredictable transition in the spring due to our unstable infrastructure.

I feel very positive about the amount of grass in these weak areas, some of these areas are common bermuda grass not your typical 419. One of the big differences between these two types of grass is that common doesn't hold up in the winter and it's the first bermuda grass to go dormant and the last type to green up in the spring. I believe these areas will come out of dormancy and begin to fill in as the weather warms but it's hard to predict how quickly that will happen. We will continue to do everything in our power to encourage the grass and provide the golfers with the best experience possible. While every spring is unpredictable, this winter took its toll on the course and with all of the rain it has limited us on our ability to provide adequate playing conditions.

Thank you for all your support and I look forward to this growing season being one of BCC's best ever.

Ed Walker