



# THE FIRST TEE

Victoria Men's Golf Club Newsletter

Spring 2019



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## 2019 Executive

President	Derrick Forsythe
Vice President	Aaron Anderson
Secretary	Marvin Wadsworth
Treasurer	Greg Gutsch
Club Captain	Jordan Vallee
Wed Night Chair	Mike Pickard
Tournament Chair	Lincoln Chow
Handicap	Peter Leong
Match Play	Allan Nalli

Play golf,

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have fun

## Message from the President

This has been the hardest year to date for me sit down and write this letter; partly because it is the 15<sup>th</sup> time doing this and it is difficult to find new angles. And partly because it's hasn't been this cold in Edmonton since K97 came on the air and the Oilers started playing in the NHL... golf seemed a million miles away.

But today with temperatures cresting the freezing mark, I've begun counting the 51 days to the start of the 2019 season; and I think we're set up for a year of golf. For those of you not at the AGM we've made some changes based on the discussions last September.

You'll notice the fees have gone up by \$10. That small increase will cover hole-in-one insurance for any member who scores an ace during a regular men's club event. (sorry AI, if you jar another second shot on 13 for an albatross you'll still be on the hook).

Lincoln has also done a masterful job in setting up what will be an awesome Away Tournament in Kananaskis. We're playing 18 holes on the Saturday and the opportunity to play a 2<sup>nd</sup> 18 on Sunday. Lincoln has more details on the weekend in his piece inside the newsletter.

Back at the course, there is more work scheduled for this season. The city will be expanding paved pathways as well as a few other upgrades. Let's cross our fingers that they don't muck up play too much, and that we're back to the original tees on 3, 8, 16 and 18 to start the season. (See Capital Projects on the next page)

A reminder to everyone registration deadline for 2019 is 1800 hours Sunday, 21 April and our meet and greet is booked for Wednesday, 24 April from 1800-2100 hours. We'll be talking about the rule changes for the 2019 season. I posted a great YouTube video on the VMC Facebook page that summarizes these changes really well. We've talked many times about the need to speed up play – some of these changes will help with that; I encourage everyone to take a look.

OK guys, that's about it for me. I'll see you in less than two months. For those of us skewing older on the age scale, now might be a good time to start a stretching routine in preparation for the start of the season; or we could just drink beer...

See you on the green.

Derrick

## Capital Projects at Victoria for 2019

It looks like the city is doing a lot of capital construction this summer focusing on cart path improvements and landscaping. Specifically:

- The area near the clubhouse, 9 and 18 green including 1 and 10 tee box pathways
- Pathway between 1 green and 2 tee
- Pathway between 2 green and 3 tee
- Pathway between 4 green and 5 tee
- Pathway between 5 green and 6 tee
- Small area near ditch at 6 green
- Upgrades at 7 tee; new path and removal of existing from 7 green to 8 tee
- Realignment between 8 green and 9 tee
- Path and extensive landscaping from 10 green to 11 tee
- Drainage on 12 tee and path improvements
- Path extension on 13 tee
- New path from 14 green to 15 tee
- Realignment and paving at 16 tee
- Realignment and paving from 17 green to 18 tee
- Paving of cart storage compound
- New picker pad at the driving range.

Work will start as soon as the weather permits and ground conditions are favorable; likely early May. Construction will take place throughout the golf course so it will likely result in how we move around the course.

The upside is the work is scheduled to be completed in August – which means they'll likely be paving through October. I'm hoping we'll see the paving of the circle off the east edge of the balcony and maybe, finally, we can get a level first tee...



## Club Captain's Corner

As Club Captain for the Victoria Men's League for the 2019 season, I would like to extend a very warm welcome to our returning members as well as to our future members (at least I am hopeful to have some new members join us in our league) and visitors.

The 2019 golf season is about to begin and we can all only hope for our best inter-club season yet.

As always, let's do our best to help in maintaining our course by ensuring we:

- Repair divots
- Rake bunkers (if used)
- Put your garbage or cans in their

respective bins

For those members who are or have been "indisposed" over the winter season, please get back to full fitness ASAP. We need you!

A busy and, hopefully, enjoyable golfing season lies ahead of us, and I look forward to sharing it with you all, over some cold ones in the clubhouse!

See you on the course!

Jordan

## Meet & Greet

Victoria Social Room

April 24th at 6:00 pm

Food and Refreshments  
will be provided

## Opening Day

May 1st

*New this year...*

Hole in One

Insurance

Included in your Club Entry Fee



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# From the proshop...

Take advantage of the available discounts....

## Golf Rewards Card - \$40

10% Discount on Green Fees, Carts, Food and Proshop items

## Platinum Rewards Card - \$100

20% Discount on Green Fees

10% Discount on Carts, Food, Proshop items and more

Ask about the Golf Multi-Pass as well!!!



## Welcome to Wednesday Night

Welcome to the Victoria Men's Golf Club for the 2019 season!

I hope that everyone has wintered well and trust that you are ready to get back to another year of good company and challenging yourself to be the best golfer that you can be!

Wednesday is our chance to take that mid-week break to play some competitive golf, but also have a good time and get acquainted with some great people. Socializing upstairs after the round is as much a part of our club as the golf! I hope that everyone is able to take a couple of minutes, or a couple of hours, to come up after your round!

This will be my ninth season with the club and second as the Wednesday Chair. My goal is to have your experience with our club be welcoming, all-inclusive and long lasting.

I am looking forward to meeting all of our new members and re-connecting with our returning ones.

Last season we had a successful transition to the on-line sign-up sheet which we will continue to use this season. I will send out an E-mail prior to the Meet & Greet with instructions on how and when to sign-up.

Information will still be accessible on our Google Sheets Page from links on **The Victoria Men's Golf Club** website.

- Wednesday Tee Times
- Wednesday Prize results
- Tournament Tee Times
- Tournament results
- Attendance
- Interclub results
- Match Play schedule and results

As a club we need to keep trying different things to improve. Changes that we will try on Wednesday are aimed at ensuring that all of the handicap groups are balanced and all are equal within our club.

It has also been our intention to pay out everything in the prize pool on the day that it was taken in and because of that I will be re-structuring the prizes a little. I will send a complete list prior to the season.

We will have a lot of information to pass along as we get closer to the start of the season so keep an eye out for some of my **long** e-mails. I will do my best to keep them to the point and maybe down to just 1 or 2 pages.

Play well! Have Fun!

Mike Pickard

## Match Play

Hi everyone, once again I will be heading up the Match Play tournaments.

For those unfamiliar with the tournaments they are season long Singles and Doubles Match Play events for players who wish to sign-up and compete against fellow club members for the intense competition, social aspects, thrill of victory and the agony of defeat (which quickly diminishes with liquid libations shortly thereafter). Oh and your name permanently etched on some hardware for the champions and some

cash for all those making it to the final rounds.

To make these tournaments successful and finish before the end of season, matches need to be played as soon as possible so that weather and other circumstances don't become a factor. In the past I have seen matches not being played in the early rounds when they could have been as the participants are playing that day but just in different groups and far apart in tee-times. This year we will try something a bit different to get these early matches played at

times that are more preferable to the players.

During sign-up you will be able to indicate if you prefer to play early 2pm-3:30pm or play late 3:30pm to 5pm or no preference. The draw will then start with these preferences. This hopefully will get guys playing earlier in the season.

The hope is that these tournaments will start around mid-May. Look for the posted sign-up sheets as we start the season.

Play well.

Allan.

## Tournament/Weekend Chair Address

Welcome to new and returning members. This year promises to be a great one as we have a few exciting announcements to make.

Weekend tournaments offer lots of variety as each tournament will be played in a slightly different format. This gives you lots of opportunities to challenge yourself and to test your mental and physical skills.

Details of each tournament will be posted in the Men's washroom board as well as emailed to all members. This culminates into our Club Championship which is a 2-day event to crown the best in mid-August.

Most tournaments will be held on Saturdays at approximately 7:30 AM. The exceptions are the Away Tournament (Saturday &/or (optional) Sunday) at approximately 10:30 AM. and the 2-day Club Championship (Saturday & Sunday) at approximately 7:30 AM. Please observe tournament sign-up deadlines as it will be very tight logistics wise due to having the event on Saturdays instead of Sundays. Some tournaments also include meals or food vouchers to provide added value for each participating member.

This year, our Away Tournament will be held at the spectacular Kananaskis Golf Course. We've managed to secure 2 days on 2 different courses during their most sought-after weekend in June to hold our Away Tournament. We will be playing Mt. Lorette Saturday and Mt. Kidd Sunday on 2 different tee boxes depending on your handicap.

As this is our most ambitious event to date, my company has decided to be the sponsor for this event. Club member hole prize fees (for long drive, KP, long putt etc.) will be covered (paid by sponsor – approx. \$15 value) along with many door prizes which will total approximately \$1000. Only Victoria Men's Golf Club members are eligible for the hole/door prizes.

For this Away Tournament, club members, family, friends & guests (male only) are welcome but the maximum limit is 48 players. The cost is \$135+ GST per person (includes power cart & driving range) for club members and any guests. If we go over the maximum limit of 48 players, preference will be given to club members first. Sign-up deadline is May 8, 2019 by 11 PM. Payment must be made in full by the deadline. For those that are planning to

play both days, please make your overnight arrangements (campsite, Airbnb, hotel etc.) early to avoid disappointment. I'm in negotiations with a hotel for group pricing. More details to come.

Lastly, for this coming year, we are opening up the weekend tournaments for sponsorships. This will provide an opportunity to market your company, business or services to your fellow members. This should result in more &/or better prizes and other exciting offers from the sponsors. We'll have a variety of options, ideas and suggestions for you if you are interested. Please contact Lincoln Chow by email (lchow66@gmail.com) or phone (780-445-8082).

Looking forward to meeting everyone and to having a fun and memorable year of golf!

Lincoln Chow –  
Tournament/Weekend Chair  
Doug Krystofiak –  
Assistant Tournament/  
Weekend Chair

# 2019

## Tournaments

Wednesday, May 8

Interclub Qualifier # 1

Saturday, May 11

Kickoff & I.C. Qualifier # 2

Wednesday, May 15

Interclub Qualifier # 3

Saturday, May 25

Jim Mahar Memorial

Saturday, June 8

Mid Season Classic

Wednesday, June 19

Johnny Aitken

*Saturday and Sunday  
June 22 and 23*

*Away Tournament  
Kananaskis*

Saturday, July 6

Tombstone

Saturday, July 20

President's Choice

*Saturday and Sunday  
August 17 and 18*

*Club Championship*

Saturday, September 7

Champion's Cup

Saturday, September 21

Club Final and AGM

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# MADD Golf Tournament July 5, 2019 at The Links

## Handicap

What is a handicap?

Contrary to popular opinion, a player's handicap is intended to show a player's potential, not a player's average score. The frequency by which a player will play to their handicap is a function of that golfer's handicap, as low handicappers are statistically more consistent than higher handicappers.

The Handicap Factor is calculated using the best 10 of the player's last 20 rounds and updated with each new round played. The Handicap Factor travels with the golfer from course to course and is adjusted up or down depending on the length and difficulty of the course played, resulting in a "Course Handicap". The Course Handicap is the number of strokes a golfer receives from a specific set of tees at the course played and represents the number of strokes he would require to play equitably against a "scratch" golfer (a golfer with a Handicap Factor of "0.0). The more difficult the golf course, the more strokes the golfer receives and vice versa.

On your Victoria scorecard you are required to enter your course handicap (e.g. 19) not your handicap factor 20.5 (the factor is used to determine your course handicap on any course with a slope and rating); and your full name on the scorecard to be eligible for Wednesday night and weekend competition. NOTE: course handicap is always a whole number (no decimals).

In stroke play, it is used to calculate a net score from the number of strokes played during a competition, thus allowing players of different proficiency to play against each other on somewhat equal terms. In match play, the handicap difference between players is used to determine the number of strokes the high handicap player should receive from the low handicapper during the playing of their round. The higher the handicap of a player, the poorer the player is relative to those with lower handicaps.

If you have more questions about the golf handicap, please go to the Golf Canada link: <https://golfcanada.ca/handicapping/> - handicap-faqs

Your Handicap Chair... Peter



Your Handicap Factor is **20.5** [View History](#)

[At-a-Glance](#) [My Club Roster](#) [Favourite Players](#) [Favourite Courses](#)

[Post a Score](#) [Handicap Lookup](#) [Find a Course](#)

Member Club:	Victoria Men's Golf League
Membership Type:	Default
Expiration Date:	N/A
Home Course:	Victoria Golf Course
Default Tees:	Black
Course Handicap:	<b>19</b> <a href="#">[ View All ]</a>
2019 Score Count:	0
2019 Scoring Average:	0.0

## Fellowship Award

The Victoria Men's Golf Club was presented with a new award in 2018.

The Fellowship Trophy will be presented along with a cash/gift certificate award which would go to the "Gentleman Golfer of the Year".

This award is not meant to be given to necessarily the BEST golfer, however, our best golfer could also possess all of the best qualities that we look for.

This award is meant to be given to the member who best exemplifies the following criteria:

### Honesty

One who shows they are being truthful; call penalties on themselves, record accurate scores

### Respect

One who shows respect for oneself, playing partners, fellow competitors, the golf course, and for the honor and traditions of the game.

### Courteous

One who uses proper etiquette throughout the round

### Integrity

One who is responsible for their own actions and personal conduct on the golf course

### Dedication

One who comes out regularly and puts in the effort to improve the quality of their game

### Sportsmanship

One who is competitive but still makes the game enjoyable to play with no matter the outcome



The process for declaring a winner of this award would go as follows:

### Nomination

Any active member can nominate a fellow member who you think is deserving based on the criteria above.

Nominations should be sent with the reason that you feel this person is deserving of the award.

Nominations would be open from August 1st until the end of day after the Club Championship on August 18.

The Executive members would narrow the nominees down to a list of 5 Finalists.

An e-mail will be provided for nominations to be sent to.

### Vote

A list of the finalists would be sent to all of our current members which you would then cast your vote for.

Voting would be open by August 24th and closed on September 15th

### Presentation

The winner of this award would be presented at the Club Final / AGM.

## Website

[Vmcgolf.ca](http://Vmcgolf.ca)

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