



## Directors

2009

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*Jim Mackie*

*Treasurer*  
*Brian Ciccozzi*

*Captain*  
*Dave Stephens*

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*Don McIntyre*

*Social Director*  
*Carl Jonsson*

*Director at Large*  
*Jim Selley*

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*Ex Officio*

*Gary Sinclair*  
*Editor*  
*Web Master*

*Roy Moulton*  
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## President's Message

The opening social was a great start to our golf season. Well attended, there was opportunity for questions and answers about our season, the change of playing day, and only two months at Langara.

Early April was cold and wet but we have had a succession of great playing days...if only the golf would match it!

Our first away game at Point Roberts was as enjoyable as usual and we have a second away game looming on the horizon at Kings Links on July 13th (sign up in club house).

It is appropriate that I express appreciation to those members who give so willingly of their time to man the Captain's table each week and to those who volunteered to assist with organizing the completed events---Bud Brown, T.N.T. 4 man, McIntyre, and Ed Angel.

The first Inter-Club game of the year was at U.B.C. with the deciding game at Langara on August 17th. Thanks to *Brian Ciccozzi* for his work on this event.

Our annual Putting Jamboree is now over and the big money winners declared. Check out the web site!

Since the beginning of the season we have had some losses to the club. *Harold Hunter* decided that driving in a cart with Gary Sinclair was just too much, and has become an associate member as has *Ernie Poole*. *Gordon Monteith*, a recent member, died last month, and on June 5th, both *Ab Miles* and *Dunc MacInnes* passed away. Please look at the web site under Remembrance for more information.

On a more cheerful note, many of our recuperating members are making strides to return to action on Thursdays. Some have been traveling, others with more serious problems. Welcome back, and to those not yet able to play...come and have lunch with us on Thursdays.

*John McPherson's* Hole-in-One on May 21st was our first in two years, congratulations John!

Many of our new members have been filling in as spares and some waiting-to-play members have been available on occasion. Welcome!

By the time you receive this copy of the Divot Dust, we will be approaching our *FIRST THURSDAY AT LANGARA* on July 2nd. The staff at Langara is looking forward to our two months there! Enjoy.

Finally, a word of thanks and appreciation to the *Board Members* for their commitment to the club, and to the members of the *Captain's Table* for their long days on Thursdays and communication with members throughout the week.

*Jim Appleby*

We return to Langara

Thursday, July 2nd

Joe Dwyer Trophy - Day 1  
Quota Points Scoring



## *Remembrance*

We are saddened by the recent passing of

Gordon Monteith  
Duncan MacInnes  
Ab Miles

*We remember them as avid golfers and dedicated supporters of our Club's activities.*

*Their presence will be missed.*



## *Captain's Message*

We're well into the 2009 season, and things seem to be going reasonably smoothly from the Captain's point of view. We've had the Bud Brown, the McCleery TNT, the McIntyre, the Putting Jamboree and the Ed Angel and our first away game, at Point Roberts. We've also had the first of our interclub matches with the Men's Midweek Club (we're two points down, so we have our work cut out for us when we host the return match at Langara in August).

The main concern I've heard so far is about late tee times. As you know, as part of our arrangement with the Park Board, we were assigned 8:30 start times in April and October, 8:00 in May and September, and 7:30 in June, July and August. (The April and October times are half an hour later than our start at McCleery last fall.) The later start in particular meant that the late groups out were not coming in until well into the afternoon.

In view of concerns about late starts, we've tried to book any extra tee times earlier in the morning and we've shifted to a rotation system, as you know, with the last three groups out one week starting early the following week, except for any foursomes that have indicated that they would prefer to start later on a regular basis. This seems to be the fairest way of allocating tee times, and to have been generally accepted. To introduce some flexibility, *Lorne Lindsay*, who makes up the weekly draw, is prepared to try to accommodate the needs of individual members who might want to start early or late on a given week, for example to meet a doctor's appointment. The main exception to the rotation approach is that we have reserved the first two tee times for the Vice-Captain and Captain, so that we can be back in to get scores, determine availability for the following week, distribute prizes, etc. I'd recommend that this be continued in the future, regardless of who is Captain or Vice Captain.

*Lorne* and I appreciate the efforts members are making to maintain an appropriate pace of play. Most foursomes are doing well, and finishing up in about 4:20 or so. Some, unfortunately, are slower. This is the second main area of complaint I've heard over the course of the season so far. Remember, your challenge is not to keep ahead of the group behind, but right behind the group ahead. If you find that you are consistently slower than the field, please consider using a power cart, and *Lorne* will try his best to find a partner to share the costs with.

I'd like to welcome our new members and those on the wait list who are helping to fill out the draw each week.

I'd also like to thank *Paul Levy, Jim Trotter and Chris Allen*, all of whom have done yeoman service at the Captain's table, as well as the members who have taken on responsibility for the various events we've run so far - and who are recognized by name elsewhere in this newsletter.

*Dave Stephens*



### *Membership Director's Message*

After a wet start to spring, we've enjoyed some ideal golfing weather. The course has been in first class shape and these dry conditions auger well for the move to Langara where most members enjoy lower scores, a great patio to enjoy a beer afterwards to recount those missed opportunities for even better scores.

We have a long list of players applying for membership. Many have spared for members unable to participate. *Lorne Lindsay* has done an excellent job contacting these players and informing them to contact him if they are available. Although we have been given twenty-two tee-off times, we rarely have twenty full

foursomes out.

In order of application date, our spares are as follows (column by column):

*Paul Kaushal  
Tony Blake  
Ray Morgan  
Al Simmonds  
Ray Wood  
Barrie Stubbs  
Roy Thordarson  
Bruce McRae*

*Doug Blackman  
Mike Russell  
Larry Stockford  
Tony White  
Colin Mallet  
Richard Martin  
Rob Dickinson*

One requirement of membership in the WPGC is participation. Members are expected, unless there are extenuating circumstances, to play in a minimum of ten eighteen hole rounds sponsored by the club either on our regular Thursday play or away. Are you meeting that obligation?

Looking forward to seeing you on the course.

*Don McIntyre*

<p>Opening Day at Langara Golf Course Thursday, July 2</p> <p><b>Joe Dwyer Trophy Competition - Day 1</b> Total Quota Points</p>	
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## Observations by our Vice Captain *Lorne Lindsay*

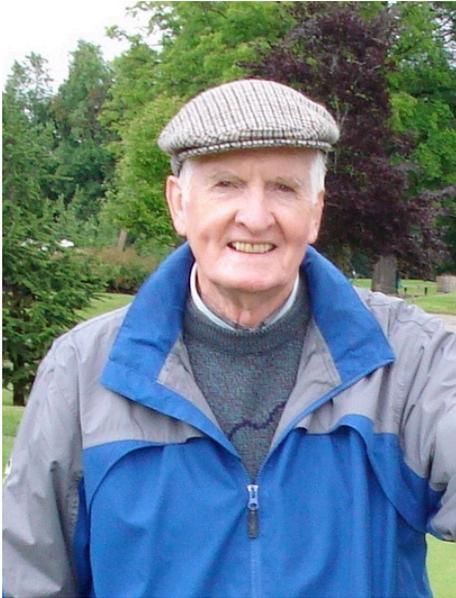
Thanks to the foursome captains (and their alternates) for letting me know who will be playing the following 2 weeks. This is most helpful in preparing the weekly draws. Thanks also for then contacting the members of your group with their tee time. We realize that the draw is always available on the website (thanks, *Gary*), but the personal contact is appreciated.

Members are reminded to check the draw later for any changes (although you will normally be contacted).

Please enter all your game scores; it is important to keep your handicap current. (In looking at the handicap table, it appears that some members are not entering all scores.)

- We will continue to rotate the last 3 groups to the top on "regular foursome" days. Please remember to see *Dave* or me if you have a special request. (Most times, I do not forget, but occasionally it happens, and I apologize.)
- Regarding pace of play, in addition to Captain *Dave Stephens'* comments: for the most part, our members are doing well – and the Players' Assistant at McCleery has been relatively happy. However, it only takes one group to slow everyone else down. We've sometimes gone from a round of 4 hours 10 minutes to 4 hours 35 minutes, and even with the starter times, it then makes it difficult for the following groups to regain time.
- If you note that your foursome is losing sight of the group in front, one suggestion is to have the first two players who have finished putting proceed to the next hole and either hit off, or at least be ready to go. This will help close the gap.
- The number of players fluctuates each week; we've gone from a low of 69 to a high of 86 (average 77), using from 18 to 22 tee times.
- We have 16 players on our waiting list and have offered them games each week. Over 11 draws, 23 spots have been filled by 9 of these individuals.
- Members should arrive in plenty of time for their tee off; sometimes the pro shop may ask your group to move up a slot.
- We appreciate the efforts of everyone who has made contributions to our special events thus far and will recognize them formally later.
- Please share any constructive comments with *Dave* or me.

*Lorne Lindsay*



*RULE REMINDERS*  
*Dave Fairweather*

Charter Member - WPGC  
President 1991  
Captain 1989,90,2002,03  
Lifetime Member - Bestowed 2008

*After two and a half years as your Rules Commentator, I'm finding it difficult to bring up issues of interest or the review of rules, which have not been dealt with previously. So this will be my 'Swan Song'.*

In looking back on the ground covered, I would suggest that the 'Rule Reminders' outline in the 2009 March publication of the *Divot Dust* would serve you well as a regular reference. As a 'finale', there is one rule which was covered quite some time ago and is either not fully understood or not respected in terms of it's limitations.

This is *Rule 26. Water Hazards (including Lateral Water Hazards)*.

The timing is a bit off, in that we will be switching from McCleery, which has 15 water hazards that can come into play, to Langara, where only 2 exist. Keep this handy for September and October.

I think that the evidence of stakes/lines, to identify a *Water Hazard (yellow)* & *Lateral Water Hazard (red)*, is pretty inconsistent and that adds to the difficulty.

On checking with the *McCleery Pro Shop*, I was told that *all of the Water Hazards on the course are regarded as – Lateral Water Hazards*. (That is a surprise to me, as in my all too frequent visits to that nasty, mucky, water hole, short and to the left of the No. 3 green, I had taken relief under *Rule 26-1 b*. This allowed me to drop a ball behind (short of) the water hazard, keeping the point of entry directly between the hole and the spot on which the ball is dropped, with no limit as to how far behind, it could be dropped). *Hole No. 3, as a Lateral Water Hazard, limits me to two club lengths on the down slope. (Ugh)*.

As a *consequence* of being in a Lateral Water Hazard, under *penalty of one stroke*, you may:

- 26-1a. Play a ball as nearly as possible at the spot from which the original ball was last played.
- c. Drop a ball outside the water hazard within two club lengths of and not nearer the hole, than the point where original ball was judged to have last crossed the margin of the water hazard. If the only relief is on a slope, that's playing golf by the rules.

We may need to come up with a Club rule, to define where Rule 26-1b (dropping a ball behind the water hazard) could well apply, on McCleery & Langara courses.

In closing and as a reminder, the RCGA website at [www.rcga.org](http://www.rcga.org) includes several useful topics.

Have a great summer of golf and be ready for those Lateral Water Hazards back at McCleery in September & October.

*Dave Fairweather*

*Message from our Director at Large - Jim Selley*



The new edition of our West Point Hats has arrived and are going fast! As you have likely noticed, there has been a colour change to black with an orange accent, and they look great on grey hair or bald heads.

Members wanting a hat should contact Jim Selley

at [jim.selley@telus.net](mailto:jim.selley@telus.net).

The price is \$12.

*Jim Selley*

*If your opponent has trouble remembering whether he shot a six or a seven, he probably shot an eight.*

<i>Hole-in-One - John McPherson</i>		
	<p><b>May 21, 2009</b></p> <p><b>McCleery G.C.</b></p> <p><b>13th Hole</b></p>	
<p><b><i>The membership congratulates John and thanks him for the complimentary glass of beer that we will all receive at the Palcutta Bid Night to celebrate his achievement.</i></b></p>		

## July & August @ Langara

### Social Director's Message



Two of our major social events have been completed with the Opening Social at the Langara location being a successful beginning to our 2009 season. The just completed *Putting Jamboree*, coordinated by *Norm Thiessen* and *Peter Coyle*, was also a most enjoyable event as the course designers provided a creative and challenging layout for all skill levels.

The Club's next Social Event will be the *Palcutta Bid Evening* - starting at 6:30 on Tuesday, August 25th at the Langara Golf Club clubhouse. The Evening will precede the Palcutta Tournament on Thursday, August 27th. We again expect a lively auction of the Teams that will play in the Palcutta competition. Members who do not sign up to play in the Palcutta are, nevertheless, invited to come out to enjoy the Palcutta Evening and join in the bidding - either alone or as part of a syndicate. New members are particularly encouraged to come as the event is another good way to get to know other members.

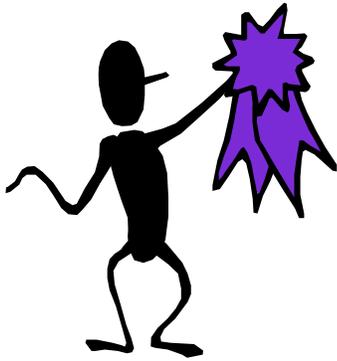
Put the evening of August 25th on your social calendar! Nibbles will be served - so don't totally fill up at dinner before you come.

The next two months feature the "home" game of our *Interclub* competition match as well as the remaining three games of our *Away Game schedule* - all of these events offer great opportunities to socialize with your fellow West Pointers. We invite you to look for the sign-up sheets, which are posted regularly on our Notice Board, and participate in the excellent fellowship that has become a major part of these events. The Notice Board postings will be at McCleery until the end of June and after Sept 1st - and at Langara during July and August while we are playing there.

Looking forward to seeing many of you at these excellent Club events.

*Carl Jonsson*

*Actually, the only time I ever took out a one-iron was to kill a tarantula. And I took a 7 to do that .  
~ Jim Murray*



## Volunteer Recognition

The *Captain's Group* wishes to publicly recognize those Club members who are giving so freely of their time to organize and manage our scheduled competitions while we play at the McCleery Golf Course during April, May & June.

To the following members, we offer a sincere  
"Thank you for your assistance!"

*Dave Stephens, Captain  
Lorne Lindsay, Vice Captain*

### April, May & June Events and their Coordinators

Opening Day Social  
Carl Jonsson

Bud Brown Eclectic  
Brian Ciccozzi

Team Net Total (TNT) Tournament – McCleery  
Don McIntyre

McIntyre Trophy  
Don Clancy

Away Game Competition  
Jim Mackie – Point Roberts G.C.

Putting Jamboree  
Norm Thiessen & Peter Coyle

Captain's Table - Card Adjudicators  
Paul Levy, Lorne Lindsay,  
Jim Trotter

#### Message from the Captain - Preferred Rules - Reminder

If your ball is in an unplayable lie, other than in a hazard, it can only be moved two club lengths per penalty stroke.

*Dave Stephens*

Competition Winners – April, May and June, 2009

*Congratulations on your performances!*

Bud Brown Eclectic

Mike Carter, Nick Atkinson, Tony Appel  
Runners Up  
Peter Coyle, Bob Gatto, John McHattie

Team Net Total (TNT) - McCleery

Dave Stephens, David Cooke, John Wood, Don Edmonds  
Runners Up  
Brian Ciccozzi, Neil Griggs, Doug Symonds, George Doiron

McIntyre Trophy

Jim Mackie  
Runner Up  
John McPherson

0 - 19	20 - 24	25+
	Winners	
Mike Carter (bb9)	John McPherson	Jim Mackie
	Runners Up	
Ron Babcock	Bob Gatto	Don Edmonds

Ed Angel Trophy

David Cooke and Ed Murray  
Runners Up  
Peter Coyle and George Sarich

Putting Jamboree Trophy

Jim Selley  
Runners Up  
Stan Lawson and Art Roberts - tie

Winning Teams - tie  
Jim Selley & Roger Kronqvist  
Norm Thiessen & Ed Bobinski

WEST POINT GOLF CLUB

*Coming Events - July & August*

Joe Dwyer Trophy

Parker Shield Eclectic

Team Net Total (TNT) - Langara

Super Senior & Senior Master Championships

Palcutta Bid Night & Tournament

Interclub Match 2

*Away Games - Mondays*

Kings Links - Delta

*July 13th - Craig Thomson*

Newlands G&CC - Langley

*August 10th - Rob Sandhu*

Surrey GC - Surrey

*August 31st - Andy Schmidt*

*You can talk to a fade but a hook won't listen.  
~ Lee Trevino*

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