

Sketch of a West Pointer – Doug Blackman



Doug was born in Saskatoon in January 1945, so he claims that technically he is not a baby boomer! His family moved to New Westminster when he was four years old because his father was transferred with Eaton's as it expanded into Alberta and BC.

Doug first played golf while in his teens, introduced to the game by his dad. He recalls playing Greenacres in Richmond when only 6-foot staked trees defined the fairways. He also played Fraserview in its old configuration as well as Birch Bay while on summer vacations.

After attending 3 elementary schools in New Westminster, Doug went to Vincent Massey Junior High and Lester Pearson Senior High. He started at UBC in 1962, and after completing only 3 years in Science, he was fortunate

to get into medical school early, graduating with his medical degree in 1969. Following his internship and one year of practice in Victoria, he went to Prince George for "a look" – and stayed 28 years, practicing Family Medicine.

Doug is married to Jean whom he has known since elementary school days. Jean and Doug have 2 children and 4 grandchildren. Fortunately for them, their daughter's family lives only three blocks away. Their son and his family live on a hobby farm in Lake Country (Okanagan), raising sheep for spring lamb.

In 1976-77, Doug and Jean spent a year in Cameroon, West Africa, as medical missionaries, replacing the full-time missionary doctor while he was home on furlough. They moved from Prince George back to Vancouver in 1999 when Doug took a position as Deputy Registrar with the College of Physicians and Surgeons, primarily responsible for registration of new physicians and for quality assurance programs. He was elected the President of the Federation of Medical Regulatory Authorities of Canada in 2008.

Doug and Jean enjoy travel and have been fortunate to have traveled to many places throughout Canada and the rest of the world. Two highlights were a trip to Kenya and Egypt and a 10-day expedition in the Galapagos Islands.

They resumed playing golf in Prince George once their kids were in the latter part of high school. Doug and Jean have enjoyed playing locally on weekends and in some of their travels throughout Canada and in Maui. Some of his favorite courses include Crown Isle in Comox and the Stanley Thompson designed courses back east, including Digby Pines and Highland Links. Another golf vacation highlight was Prince Edward Island, (Carolina North).

Upon retirement in 2010, Doug was introduced to both West Point Golf Club and Men's Midweek at UGC by Dave Stephens, who is married to Doug's cousin, Barb. (The small "Class of 2010" produced two other presidents, Andrew Hobbs and Colin Mallet.) Doug was nominated to become a member of our Board in 2014 and served three years as Secretary. In 2017, he was elected President and will have served the membership for four more years when his role as Past President concludes at the end of the current season.

Doug enjoys the challenge of the game and the camaraderie. He says that he especially enjoys match play events. His lowest handicap has been the current 17 with the new system. He has not shot his age yet but has 2 holes-in-one playing with West Point, both at McCleery, on #13 and #5.

Apart from golf, Doug enjoys puttering in his garden and engaging with his grandchildren.

Material submitted by Doug to Lorne, May 2020